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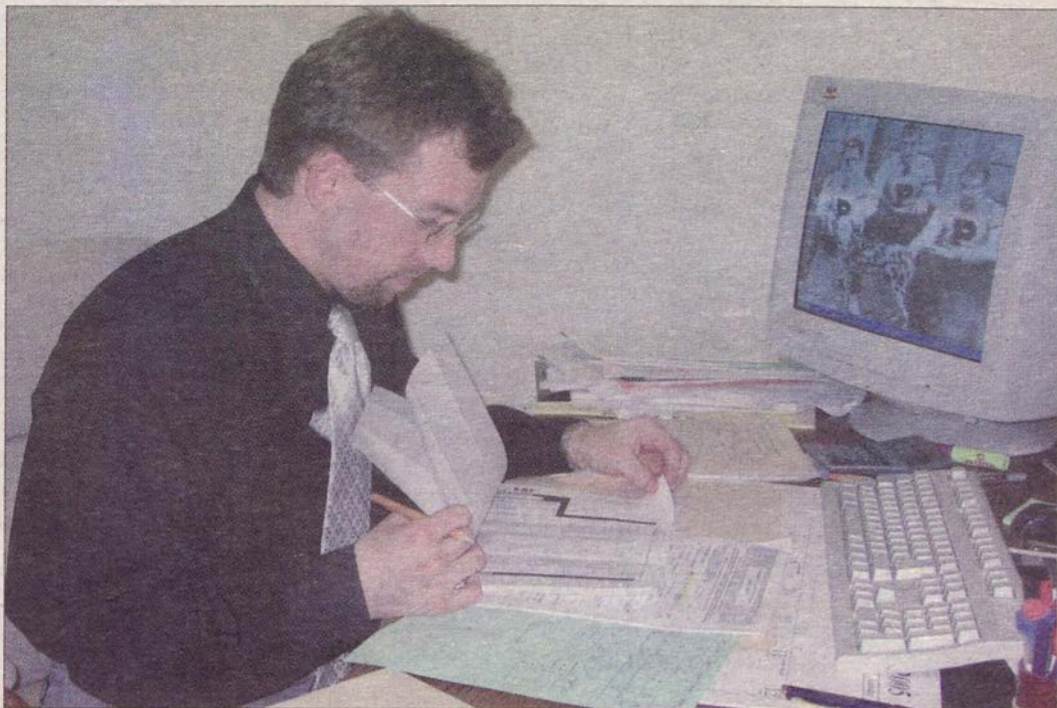
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FEBRUARY 17, 2005

Best and brightest



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

Daniel M. Richer, senior admission counselor, reviews applications for the Class of 2009.
This year, the College received the greatest number of applications in its history.

BY MALLARY J. TENORE '07
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Sitting in their offices surrounded by piles of college applications, admissions counselors at Providence College will spend the next few weeks getting a firsthand look at the characteristics and potential of the incoming freshman class.

Christopher P. Lydon, associate vice president for admission and enrollment planning, and 15 admissions counselors from the Office of Admission, have spent the month of February sifting through each of the 8,218 applications—the greatest number ever received in the

College's history.

Lydon attributed this increase in part to the growing reputation of Catholic secondary institutions and the rising number of students graduating from high school.

"Catholic higher education in general is increasingly well thought of," Lydon said. "All of our Catholic compadres are seeing increases."

Considering the 4,354 applications received in 1996, the total number of applicants has nearly doubled in the last decade, which can be partly attributed to the growing prestige of Providence College, Lydon said.

Not only is the College drawing in more students, but

it is also attracting some of the best and the brightest.

According to statistics provided by the Office of Admission, about 33% of the applicants were ranked in the top 10% of their high school class.

More than 93% were in the top half of their class, up from 81.3% in 1996. The average combined SAT score of applicants has also continued to improve, reaching its peak this year at 1197.

"These students are applying to some of the most competitive schools in the country. If we select people from the waiting list, it's not hurting our academic quality at all," said

ADMISSIONS/Page 3

Vagina Monologues' big production

BY CATE RAUSEO '07
NEWS STAFF

The campus is buzzing with "V's" this week as students celebrated with loved ones on Valentine's Day, promoted awareness of Domestic violence on Monday's "Victory Day," and voiced women's rights in the performance of *The Vagina Monologues* on Wednesday and Thursday evening.

The V-Day Worldwide Campaign encourages women around the world to present benefit performances of *The Vagina Monologues* on or around V-Day to raise awareness and money to stop violence against women and girls. Held on the same date as the more traditional V-day, Feb. 14, it promotes creative events to increase awareness, raise money and revitalize the spirit of existing anti-violence organizations.

This is the fourth annual production of the show, the proceeds of which benefit the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Sojourner House and the V-Day organization. Controversy, however, continues to surround the event at PC.

Traditionally performed at PC by an all-female cast and crew, *The Vagina Monologues* has sparked national controversy since its 1996 premier. Eve Ensler, the author of the play, stunned audiences around the world with the play's personification of female

genitalia. The play is intended to empower women and end violence against women; however, it is often perceived as contrary to the ideals of Catholicism.

The College recognizes the problem of violence against women but has a different solution. A statement issued by the College in February 2003 reads, "As a Catholic community, Providence College should strive to enhance the dignity of women and to combat violence against them within the context of a trusting and supportive community where all are welcomed and each can flourish, a community united in mind and heart, enlightened by God's wisdom and assisted by divine grace."

Such perceptions have caused conflict at many Catholic colleges and universities around the nation, including at PC.

The College administration declared that the play contained content contrary to the school's mission in 2003 and has since prohibited advertisement through the College and limited the number of tickets sold.

According to the College's statement, "Much of the content and the language of *The Vagina Monologues* runs counter to . . . the 'intellectual, social, moral and the spiritual values' proclaimed in the Mission Statement and is at odds with the ideals and values embodied in the Catholic tradition."

Courtney Howard '05, President of Women's Will and campus coordinator of V-day
MONOLOGUES/Page 5

Dorm reorganization causes separation anxiety

BY STEPHANIE BARKUS '05
NEWS EDITOR

When students arrive at Aquinas Lounge on March 17 to select housing for next year, they will have two fewer coed dorms from which to choose. As of next year,

RESIDENCE LIFE | McDermott Hall will be a male dorm, while Dore Hall will house only females.

Steven A. Sears, associate dean of Residence Life, said that the decision to change the gender composition of the dorms was made so that housing for males and females would be more equitable.

Currently, freshman males are living in quads, while there are no freshman females who are overcrowded. Sears said that changing the dorms would balance out the housing situation. "We want to make sure that males and females have the same amount of space," he said.

According to Sears, the decision was made on the basis of the gender



DENIELLE BALSARI '07/The Cowl

Next year, McDermott Hall (above) will house only boys, while Dore Hall will become an all-girls dorm.

composition of the Class of 2008 and that of next year's incoming class. The composition of next year's class is based on the predictions of the Office of Admission.

With the changes being made to

McDermott and Dore, Aquinas Hall will be the only traditional residence hall remaining coed, along with Suites Hall and the apartments.

Students had mixed reactions to the news about the change.

"I think it's a bad idea," said Kiernan Dugan '07.

"I don't really like it," said Bethany Bourdon '08, who is hoping to live in a coed dorm next year. "It's eliminating a lot of socialization."

Michaela Caron '07, on the other hand, said that having single-sex dorms can help build community, but thought the decision might cause controversy, as coed dorms are popular.

Sears said that the College is not necessarily trying to move away from coed buildings, but is interested in having single-gender dorms. "... We've always wanted single-gender residence halls, but based on the composition, we couldn't do that," he said.

"The administration doesn't take into consideration the students' opinions," said Mande Adams '08. "They could make Meagher [Hall] and McDermott both coed but they're not."

"I think that's a little unfortunate," said Katie Allen '08 of the changes. "I
HOUSING/Page 4

A&E

Pat Egan '05 explores the career of one of Hollywood's living legends, Clint Eastwood.

PORTFOLIO

Take a ride on the T and experience Boston with Katie Hughes '06 and her four friends.

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NEWS BRIEFS

Rev. Kenneth Sicard, O.P., named executive vice president

Rev. Brian J. Shanley O.P., soon to be the 12th president of Providence College, has chosen Rev. Kenneth Sicard, O.P., dean of Residence Life, to be executive vice president during the next administration, which is effective July 1, 2005. The current executive vice president is Rev. Terence Keegan, O.P., professor of theology.

Father Shanley said he chose Father Sicard based on his administrative experience at the College and the fact that he is familiar with PC.

"I thought it was good to have someone at the College who already knows the scene," he said. "He has a good reputation on campus and he's done a great job in Residence Life."

Having known Father Sicard for more than 20 years, Father Shanley said he values Father Sicard's opinions and is looking forward to working with him in the future. "He has some skills that complement my skills, so I thought we'd make a good team," said Father

Shanley. "He's someone who I can trust to tell me the truth; I don't want a yes-man. It's always good to have another set of eyes and ears."

As of right now, Father Shanley said he has not yet decided what responsibilities Father Sicard will have as executive vice president.

Father Sicard is a 1978 graduate of the College and received a master of business administration degree from PC in 1982. He entered the Dominican Order in 1984 and was ordained a priest in 1990. He then served as chaplain, as well as an instructor for business and theology, at Ohio Dominican College in Columbus for seven years.

In 1997, upon earning a doctoral degree in educational studies/business from Ohio State University, Father Sicard came to PC, where he currently heads the residence life program and supervises all on-campus housing.

—Mallory J. Tenore '07 and Jen Jarvis '07

Information from the Office of Media and Community Relations was used in this report.

Congress discusses tuition increase

Last week Student Congress discussed the possibility of an increase in tuition to expedite the construction of the new athletic facility that Providence College is planning to build.

The Providence College Department of Athletics considers a tuition increase to be a potential means of funding the fitness center. They have not made a formal proposal to date.

According to Patrick Doherty '05, President of Student Congress, Robert Driscoll, athletic director, "talked to the Class of '05...trying to gauge the student sentiment" in regard to a tuition increase.

Driscoll proposed a \$100 to \$200 fee which, Doherty said, "met with mixed reactions." He noted that the students in attendance did "agree that a fitness center is definitely something the school needs."

However, Doherty said that Driscoll "doesn't want [the fee] to be something pushed upon the students." He went on to say, "If it's something the students aren't going to be supportive of, then he'll just go on raising money for the

varsity part [of the athletics center.]"

Some students, including Fallon Hauser '05, questioned the fairness in asking the student body to fund a facility that only a portion of students use.

Bridget Black '06 suggested that a new fitness center could not only be used as a "selling point" for prospective students, but could also attract a higher caliber of athletes, thus enhancing Providence College's varsity sports program.

Mike Verzino '07 suggested that alumni fund the rooms, (as was done in the Smith Center for the Arts), to help divide the cost. Fundraisers were another alternative funding option mentioned at the meeting.

Doherty also brought up the concern that if the athletic department is allowed to make use of tuition funds, that opens the doors for other departments to ask that tuition be increased to fund their own projects.

Artistic renderings of the proposed fitness center can be viewed at www.friars.com.

—Megan Comerford '06

Campus Calendar for Feb. 18 to Feb. 24

Submit events to sbarku05@providence.edu

18 Friday

7 p.m. Homecoming Headquarters Night in McPhail's.

8 a.m.-3 p.m. PSO Special Olympics Basketball Tournament in Peterson.

7 p.m. Alumni A Capella Concert in Smith Center for the Arts.

8 p.m. Blackfriars Dance Concert in Blackfriars Theatre in the Smith Center for the Arts.

8 p.m. Guz-Men Acoustic Show in McPhail's.

20 Sunday

2 p.m. Blackfriars Dance Concert in Blackfriars Theatre in the Smith Center for the Arts.

19 Saturday

21 Monday

22 Tuesday

3:30-4:30 p.m. "The Best Way to Find Summer Internships" in Slavin G29.

2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Spring Break Career Steps in Slavin 117.

3:30 p.m. OAS time-management workshop in Library 104B.

7-9 p.m. S.T.E.P. 1 Spring Break Luau in McPhail's.

7-11 p.m. BOP: "The Real World: San Diego" speakers in '64 Hall.

24 Thursday

12:30-3:30 p.m. Things for Thursday in Slavin Center Ground Level A.

7-9 p.m. Health Education and Wellness talk about preventing drunk driving in '64 Hall.

23 Wednesday

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Admissions: Applicant pool gets deeper

continued from front page

Lydon. "Students who weren't even considering PC before now see in PC what they hope to achieve in their college education."

Biology, English, Management, Political Science and Psychology are among the most popular majors of the 2005 applicants.

As the applicant pool continues to increase, so too does the number of female applicants. This year, 3,262 males and 4,956 females applied, making for a 40/60 ratio.

Because some of PC's top competitor schools like Boston College, College of the Holy Cross, Fairfield University, and Villanova University, are also receiving more applications, recruitment becomes even more important.

"We continue to recruit aggressively nationwide and internationally," said Lydon, who pointed out that the College's recruitment efforts have largely contributed to the increase in applicants. "We want to tell the story of Providence College and hope that it will resonate with people."

Because roughly 60% of PC students hail from New England, Lydon said the admissions office concentrates the bulk of its recruitment efforts farther west. Massachusetts consistently ranks as the state with the highest percentage of applicants, and

this year is no different with 2,774 applicants from the Bay State.

Hoping to attract more international students to the College, the admissions office has broadened its efforts on an international level. For the first time in the College's history, the admissions office recruited in South and Central America last fall.

Rev. Iriarte Andujar, O.P., assistant dean of admission, spent 17 days visiting high schools in these areas and promoting the College to students and guidance counselors.

Additionally, from Sept. 1 to Thanksgiving, Raul Fonts, senior associate dean of admission, and Jennifer K. Hastings, assistant dean of admission, traveled abroad and visited high schools with English-speaking students in countries including France, Italy, Turkey, and Switzerland.

"These are kids who are looking to America and we're working hard to increase that volume quite dramatically," said Lydon.

Some of the international students who are accepted to the College choose not to attend due to financial reasons, he said, as all merit-based scholarships are reserved for U.S. applicants.

While the College's global recruitment has improved, there have nonetheless been some fluctuations in the percentage of non-caucasian applicants. The number of Hispanic students who applied this year is 255,

ADMISSIONS STATISTICS

	1996	2005
Total applicants	4,354	8,218
Early Action	357	1,715
Regular Decision	3,997	6,503
Male/Female Ratio	42/58	40/60
Residents	4,211	8,163
Commuters	143	55
Top 10% of HS class	23.1%	32.7%
Combined SAT score	1118	1197

about 7% less from last year's all-time high of 275.

Similarly, the percentage of applicants who identified themselves on their applications as Southeast Asians has dropped by about 88%.

Despite these few decreases, Lydon said the ethnic profile of students applying to the College has continued to broaden, potentially making for a more diversified freshman class.

The American Indian/Alaskan applicant pool, for example, has increased by 42% from last year, and the African American applicant pool has risen by 27%.

"What we find interesting is that students have a hard time fitting neatly into one box," said Lydon referring to the optional section on the Common

Application which asks students to indicate their ethnicity. Many students, he noted, check off that they are "multiracial."

Hastings, who helped lead the College's international recruitment efforts in her first year as a recruiter at PC, said she is impressed by international students' eagerness to attend school in America.

"They are definitely an impressive bunch and they're very serious about the entire prospect of a U.S. education," said Hastings. "They really work for it and they take their studies very seriously so that they can have this opportunity."

Lydon noted that the College's newly designed website, which was launched last year, has also helped attract prospective students, along with

ANGEL chat rooms, where prospective students can have their questions about the College answered.

When faced with two piles of applications that share many similarities, Lydon said the admissions counselors will consider which applicants can best round out the applicant pool in terms of the student's major, geographic location, and academic achievements, among other things.

Although SAT scores and GPA carry weight on a student's application, an emphasis is also placed on the student's non-academic achievements. "It's the PC personality," said Lydon. "You can't choose students solely based on their SAT scores or GPA."

Throughout the next few weeks, Lydon and admissions counselors will narrow down their piles to between 1500 and 1800 applications. They will then deliberate and read through each application once more before making their final decision in mid March.

While choosing who to accept becomes more challenging as the applicant pool grows and becomes more academically qualified, the task rarely gets old.

"It's never boring because each year you start fresh," said Lydon, who has worked in admissions at PC for 22 years. "Each year you're doing the same thing but you're doing it for different people. This wouldn't happen without the personal aspect of it."

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College appoints new assistant chaplain

BY MEGHAN WELCH '06
NEWS STAFF

Students who have attended Mass at St. Dominic Chapel or who have been studying in the chapel basement may have noticed a new

SPIRITUAL LIFE

face in the past few weeks. Rev. Thomas Blau, O.P., is the newest member of the Office of the Chaplain at Providence College, joining Rev. Brendan Murphy, O.P., chaplain of the College, Rev. Tom Ertle, O.P., assistant chaplain to the athletes, and Rev. John Paul Walker, O.P., assistant chaplain. He is planning to take over for Father Murphy, the current chaplain of Campus Ministry at PC, in July, and is enthusiastic about his new position.

"Coming to Providence College has been great," said Father Blau. "There seems to be a great dynamism and energy on the campus."

Father Blau began his work at PC in early January, and said that his transition to the College has been hindered only by the winter weather. "Other than the snow, everything has been going well. Although I grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, where it snowed a lot, I never really liked it all that much."

A graduate of the University

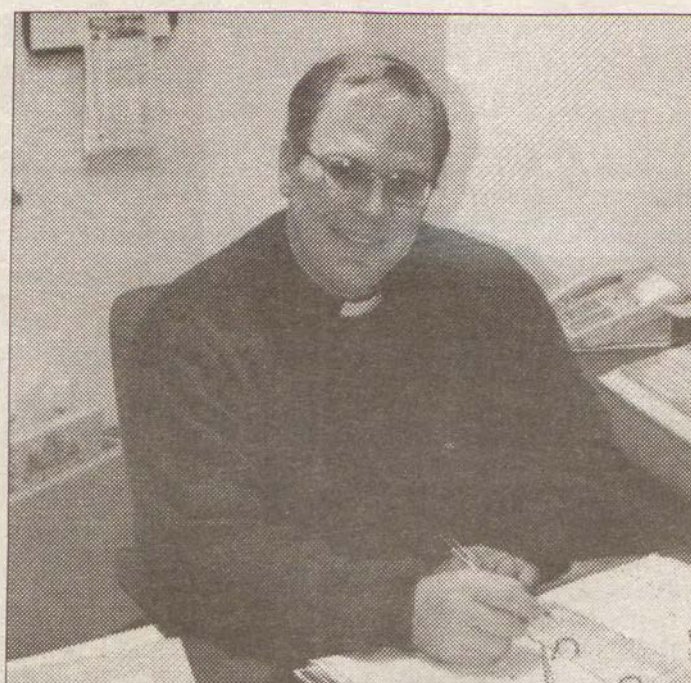
of Akron in Ohio, Father Blau studied biology before deciding to become a Dominican Friar. He comes to PC after working as a Chaplain at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Va. He also worked at the University Parish at the school.

Although the University of Virginia is a very different school than PC, (it is a public university with about 12,700 undergraduate students), Father Blau said that the adjustment has not been too hard so far. His adjustment has been highlighted by the fact the students at PC have made him feel nothing but welcome, he said.

"This semester is a time for me to get my bearings, and get to know the people [at the College]," he said. "So far, the people here have been very welcoming, which makes things much easier."

Father Blau is open to ideas and insights as to what changes should be made at the Chaplain's office, and what programs should be implemented. However, as of right now, it appears to him that the staff at the chaplain's office has done an excellent job of keeping things running smoothly.

"The Chaplain's Office is like a well-oiled machine," said Father Blau. "I'm just here to see if there's anywhere to add a little bit of grease."



TIM PISACICH '07/The Cowl

Rev. Thomas Blau, O.P., is the newest member of the Chaplain's Office.

One idea that Father Blau is bringing to the PC campus is the implementation of an ongoing look into the Scriptures. "The [Catholic] Church does more readings out of Scripture on Sundays than almost any other religion, which a lot of people don't realize," he said. "I would really like to get people more interested in reading Scripture on a regular basis."

Father Blau also said that he

commends the work that both the students involved with the Pastoral Service Organization (PSO) and the Spiritual and Liturgical Council (SLC) do on campus.

"The students on this campus have a great eagerness to help and serve, which is wonderful to see," he said. "And there is so much going on with the SLC and the PSO. I just look forward to helping that

continue during my time here at the College."

According to the Campus Ministry section of the PC website, the purpose of Campus Ministry is about "living out our call to holiness by serving God, and all whom we meet, [and] about growing in faith, meeting new friends and finding and experiencing Christ in ourselves and others."

Campus Ministry accomplishes this through the PSO, which is committed to community service and social outreach, and the SLC, a faith-based organization designed to bring people together for worship and learning. Committees associated with these groups include, among others, PC for Life, Eucharistic Ministers, Special Olympics, and Habitat for Humanity.

Father Blau said that he hopes to work closely with these groups and all of the students involved in them. However, as excited as he is about working with the students, he is equally enthusiastic about working with the staff at PC. "I am really looking forward to working with the faculty and staff, as well as the students here at PC. They are all a part of Campus Ministry here at the College, and I hope to work closely with everyone."

Housing: Freshmen left blue on St. Patrick's Day

continued from front page

don't think there's anything wrong with coed dorms."

Currently, there are no plans to make Aquinas single-sex; Sears said that based on data analysis, the school could not do that.

A meeting concerning housing selection was held on Monday, Feb. 14. Sears said that he received questions about the change and felt that once he explained the issue, students understood the situation.

He said that many females he has spoken with in the past said they enjoyed living in single-sex buildings, though he does not know how males feel

about it. He added that in focus groups, most students said they mainly focus on schoolwork during their first year in college.

Vanessa Wilczewski '08, who currently lives in an all-female dorm, said she does not like it. "I think it changes that dynamic that it used to have," she said of the changes to McDermott and Dore.

"It's the same thing," Andrew Rodgers '07 said of living in single-sex and coed dorms. "If you're going to hang out with girls, you'll hang out with them. It doesn't matter if they live upstairs from you."

"I just think that we're old enough to live with boys," said Allen.

Housing selection will start on March 17 at 2:30 p.m. in Aquinas Lounge and will continue the following day if necessary.

"The administration doesn't take into consideration the students' opinions."

Mandee Adams '08

While some students in the Class of 2008 took part in suite and apartment selection last fall, more than 800 will be selecting rooms next month.

Sears said that the changes would not force these students to live in dorms that are traditionally for freshmen, such as McVinney and Raymond halls. On the other hand, it also depends on the students' choice of room size, as there are only a limited number of doubles available.

Sears expects that halls such as McDermott will continue to house mainly sophomores, rather than freshmen, but it depends on which dorms students choose during housing selection.

According to Sears, housing selection was not intentionally scheduled for St. Patrick's Day, but was instead chosen due to

administrative requirements. "That was the best day we could schedule it," he said.

Adams said that she and her friends are unhappy about the fact that housing selection is on St. Patrick's Day. "I've heard it's the biggest celebration of the year," she said. "It could possibly ruin the whole celebration for us."

Rumors that students who show up to housing selection intoxicated will not receive rooms are not true, Sears said. He added that if a student does come to housing selection intoxicated or under the influence, it will be dealt with according to the usual procedures.

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Feminism speaker strives to dispel stereotypes

BY SCOTT GEER '06
NEWS STAFF

Faculty, students and supporters attended a lecture entitled "Multicultural Feminism: Potential for Coalitions" in the Feinstein Academic Center on Tuesday Feb. 15. The event featured guest speaker Dr. Aida Hurtado, professor of psychology at the University of California in Santa Cruz.

Hurtado, who wrote *The Color of Privilege: Three Blasphemies on Race and Feminism*, addressed race and gender issues women face in a white, patriarchal society.

"Different groups have different relationships to white patriarchy. White women are needed to produce whiteness. Women of color are primary workers and reproducers of workers," said Hurtado.

She argued that this perception of women is visible in the media and presented a slide show of images from famous magazines. Pictures of Jennifer Lopez and Calista Flockhart were taken from popular magazines such as *Vogue*. By dichotomizing the images, Hurtado said white women, as in the example of Flockhart, are infantilized as angelic and

pure. Ethnic women like Jennifer Lopez are misrepresented as evil, aggressive and unrestrained.

"It's a presentation through what seems to be an unimportant thing—fashion magazines, women's magazines, advertising and popular culture. But it creates and maintains these categories in our mind and this keeps them alive and functioning so that we experience them as normal and natural and we don't think to question them. So these kinds of analyses bring you up to question," said Dr. Charlotte O'Kelly, professor and chair of the sociology department.

According to O'Kelly, the images of white women are portrayed as desirable. Women of color are seen as something other than being women. "You define one that is not the other. If you're going to present (white) women as angels, pure and virgins, you need the contrast effect," she said. "So you see the women of color put as very promiscuous, very aggressive, all the opposites."

In doing so, Hurtado argued that the effect is that all women are held back. Ethnic women are adversarial and subordinate in their relationship to white women. White women are then attached to a notion of femininity that is so exaggerated that it becomes weakening



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

Dr. Aida Hurtado presented a lecture on multicultural feminism on Tuesday, Feb. 15.

in itself. These are the main concepts that she discusses in her book, in which she refers to as "blasphemies," the racial segregation among women.

Hurtado also referenced another book she has published entitled, *Voicing Chicana Feminisms: Young Women Speak Out on Sexuality and Identity*. The term Chicana means young women of Mexican descent.

Her study was conducted in the United States, in which Chicana between the ages of 20 and 30 served as respondents for the project. All of the

women questioned studied at an institution of higher education. The majority of the women categorized their economic background as poor to middle class.

The study focused on connecting the Chicana feminisms to other feminisms. Women come from all backgrounds and classes and therefore have differing views about feminism. "Latinas see [mainstream] feminism as a white, middle class movement," said Hurtado.

Citing some statistics from her book, Hurtado said 51 percent of the women in the study considered themselves feminists with no reservations. Thirty-three percent identity with feminism, while the remaining 16 percent do not.

As she noted the differences in class and race among women, the study finds some common ground worth paying attention to. Called "points of convergence," white women and Latinas share similar opinions with respect to affirmative action and abortion. In finding the positive similarities Hurtado said women of all different orientation, ethnicity, and class will be able to unite. By showing connectivity, a collective feminism can be stronger. "Having a partnership, that's what feminism is all about," said Hurtado.

Monologues: Annual show raises money for cause

continued from front page

said that the inability to advertise has an effect on fundraising efforts.

"...by not allowing us to advertise, people do not know that they can make personal donations to the cause and it is difficult to sell tickets," Howard said. "They also limit the number of people who can attend and make it difficult for us to find an approved venue. I truly believe that if we were given a larger venue, we could get a much larger and more diverse audience."

Without support from the administration, and the inability to publicly advertise, the students involved said they were unable to appeal to as large an audience as they had hoped.

"[The show] is in Feinstein so not many people can be seated . . . Only 150 tickets could be sold [per night]. All the students in the show just took tickets and sold them to our friends. It's really sad that more people couldn't come see the show . . . It's a really good cause," said Amy Berroyer '07. She is performing a new monologue called "they beat the girl out of my boy," which addresses transgender women and men.

This year, the performance was sponsored and supported by the Department of Political Science, the Department of Sociology, and the Department of Women's Studies.

Dr. Charlotte O'Kelly, professor and chair of the sociology department, said that the department's sponsorship of the

performance is based on its educational value and charitable cause.

"We know that there is some controversy surrounding this play. Yet, the content of this play is no more racy or offensive than the contents of many of the mainstream movies sponsored by the Board of Programmers, the contents found on the College cable television or even many of the books found in the College library," O'Kelly said. "Making these movies, television programming, books and this play available does not indicate that the sponsors or the college endorse the opinions or positions taken in these cultural offerings. They provide opportunities for debate and discussion."

Dr. James Moorhead, assistant professor of sociology, agrees. "The support which the Sociology Department gives has a lot to do with the fact that [*The Vagina Monologues*] takes a stand against domestic violence . . . the proceeds of the performance go to help this cause," he said.

According to Dr. Anthony Affigne, associate professor and chair of the political science department, the department has similar motivations for supporting the performance.

"The political science department is again co-sponsoring the performance because we support free speech in general, because many of our female political science majors are involved, and because open discussion of gender issues is essential to a liberal arts education," Affigne said.

Howard said the performance is reliant on support from these three departments. "We are incredibly grateful for their support, especially because in a lot of ways they are putting themselves on the line with the administration. I do not know what we would do without their support and guidance," she said.

Ensler herself came to speak in Newport last week regarding this week's national stand against domestic violence. Howard was among the students participating in the performance who were able to hear her speak.

"It was such an inspiring and motivational night. She is an incredible woman who has suffered a lot of abuse in the past," said Howard. "During her talk, she addressed Providence College directly and commended us for our efforts to get our voices heard despite the obstacles thrown our way."

According to Moorhead, Ensler's performance was attended by many who disagree with the College's policies regarding *The Vagina Monologues*.

"When the author was in Newport last week it seemed that there were local

female alumni there who were expressing discontent for the school's lack of support for the show," said Moorhead.

The show, which was held in Feinstein Room 400 Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. and Thursday at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m., will "provide women on campus with a creative outlet in a safe environment and allow all kinds of women's voices to be heard, especially those around the world that have been silenced," Howard said.

She hopes that the performance as well as the V-Day movement will help make PC students aware of the violence endured by women and provide support for all PC women.

"Although our school is run by men, women make up most of the student body and we refuse to be ignored. We need to feel supported and empowered, especially during the years when a lot of abuse and violence happens to women," said Howard. "Female students need an outlet for the fear, anger and uncertainty that surrounds us in our society and in the world."

A Message from Safety and Security

Please note: Anyone who parks on Huxley Avenue should be aware that the city of Providence has jurisdiction and parking enforcement has increased i.e. PARKING TICKETS.

Students without parking passes are strongly encouraged not to bring cars back to campus. Student parking is currently at full capacity.

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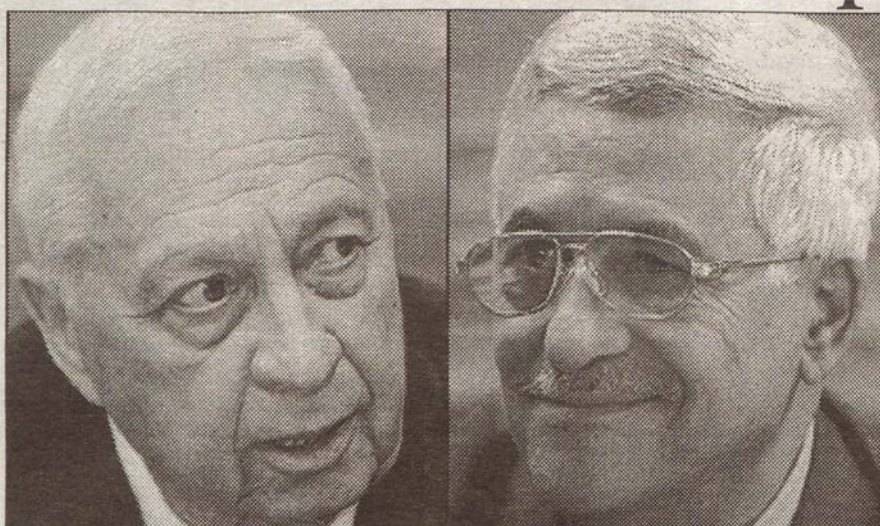
Cease-fire advances Road Map

By RYAN BOWLEY '07
WORLD STAFF

The leaders of Israel and Palestine announced last week their intention to sign an agreement for cease-fire. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas came to the agreement after a summit held in Egypt and mediated by former United States President Bill Clinton. Under the terms of the deal, Israelis will halt all military operations in return for an end to Palestinian terrorism against their citizens.

Abbas' commitment to increasing security on the Palestinian side has been met with applause, including praise from U.S. President George W. Bush. "We have seen, with the election of President Abbas, someone who has shown a commitment to... ending violence, and he has shown some strong leadership," said White House spokesman Scott McClellan. The two leaders will also meet separately with the President this spring. Following the move, President Bush appealed to Congress for \$350 million in order to help pay to repair damage done in the Palestinian territories by the years of conflict. Bush's Mid-East plan, the "Road Map" for peace, calls for an independent Palestinian state, only after the cessation of violence in the region.

Palestinian terrorist groups said recently that they would not carry out any further attacks against Israel. Representatives from Hamas and Islamic Jihad, terrorist groups supported by Iran and Syria, met with Abbas recently. Hamas further agreed that it would consult with the Palestinian Authority before retaliating for any future Israeli attacks. Israel has also agreed to the release of hundreds of militants jailed as terrorists. The 500 prisoners scheduled for release in days were all non-violent and had already served most of their sentence. These prisoners belong to the Fatah group, of which Abbas is the leader. Another 400 are scheduled for release within the months to follow. There are also plans to free even violent Palestinian prisoners if the cease-fire



Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon (left) and Palestinian Authority leader Mahmoud Abbas (right) agreed to a cease-fire during last week's summit in Egypt.

should hold.

In another gesture of goodwill, the Israelis began withdrawing troops from certain Palestinian towns immediately and allowed Palestinians passage between some of these towns, which had been restricted by the Israelis due to security concerns.

The Israeli government is also concerned about ultra-nationalist Jews who have threatened to resort to violence, even suicide bombing, if the Israeli government sticks to its agreements with the Palestinians. Thousands of pro-Israel activists protested in the streets of certain cities, including the capital of Jerusalem. "We will stay here for many more years," said one leader of the protests. One especially radical right-wing activist, Itamar Ben Gvir, resorted to shouting at and threatening members of Sharon's cabinet. In response, the government has ordered his arrest under an Israeli law that permits the government to arrest someone without trial and hold him indefinitely.

Other members of the cabinet have received written death threats against their families. Talks of evacuating the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) seemed to hit a snag Monday when Israeli and Palestinian negotiators could not decide on some specific terms of the deal. There is also a vote planned by Sharon's cabinet that will clear Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. In Gaza, the Palestinian Authority (PA) plans to demolish houses and synagogues on

Jewish settlements and create housing for Palestinians.

Even as these events took place, the White House criticized neighboring Syria for its lack of commitment to peace, and for its outright support of terrorism. "You cannot say on the one hand that you want the process of peace and on the other hand support people who are determined to blow it up," said Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. More sanctions against Syria have been threatened, which would be in addition to those already in place from the U.S. government. Syria however, has denied these accusations.

The new advances in the Middle East peace process have prompted U.S. officials to consider removing the travel warning put in place in the region. A renewed outbreak of violence in the areas began in late 2000, prompting the initial warning against recreational travel. This warning has caused significant losses for Israel in its vital tourism industry, and the removal of the travel ban could itself signify a major turning point in the peace process. The drop in tourism is considered in part to blame for the economic struggles in which Israel finds itself. The travel warning on the Palestinian regions (the West Bank and Gaza strip) however, are likely to remain in effect for the foreseeable future.

Sources: Washington Post, BBC

Jurors star-struck in Jackson case

By PHOEBE PATTERSON '07
WORLD STAFF

Controversy continues to surround Michael Jackson's child molestation trial this week as attorneys face the difficult task of selecting 12 impartial jurors who will determine if the "King of Pop" will go free or spend up to 20 years behind bars. Jackson is accused of giving a then 13-year-old cancer stricken boy alcohol, molesting him at his Neverland ranch, and conspiring to kidnap him in order to film a rebuttal version of a movie aired about him earlier this year.

Jackson, 46, pleaded innocent to the charges in April, maintaining the accuser's allegations are merely an attempt to get his money, and that the family of the boy is star crazy.

Jackson spoke out in his own defense Sunday in an online video deeming the grand jury testimony against him "disgusting and false," and asking people to "keep an open mind and let [him] have [his] day in court."

Picking from a pool of 750 people, attorneys must choose 12 jurors and

eight alternates who do not view Jackson's physical transformation as an indication of sexual deviance, blame the child's parents for allowing the boy to sleep in Neverland, or have a bias against entertainers or affluent people.

The prosecutor's ideal jury would be "past victims of sexual abuse, and people that may work with kids," according to Los Angeles criminal defense lawyer Ronald Richards. The best jury for Jackson would be "independent-minded people that aren't enamored with Tom Sneddon."

Former child star Corey Feldman is expected to testify against Jackson. While he maintains Jackson never molested him, Feldman claims Jackson showed him pornography and pictures of genitalia and venereal diseases when he was a teenager.

The trial, taking place in Santa Maria, is expected to last up to six months. Some speculate the Jackson trial will attract as much, if not more, attention as the O.J. Simpson trial. Others however believe the hype may die out once more information is revealed.

To date, lawyers for Jackson have submitted a list of hundreds of possible wit-

nesses, many of them among Hollywood's top names. Notable parts of the list include comedian Jay Leno, as well as Chris Tucker, who was present at the Neverland ranch at some of the same times as the young boy, Elizabeth Taylor and Quincy Jones, close friends of Jackson's, and Maury Povich, who was involved in the production of the movie the alleged kidnapping plot centers around.

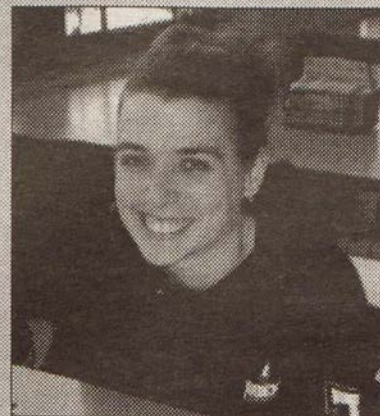
Also, Kobe Bryant is among the list of possible witnesses, in what experts see as an attempt to discredit the family, as they have made claims to know the basketball star who could also illicit sympathy for Jackson with the perspective of the falsely accused. Not all of the hundreds of witnesses will be allowed to testify, and the prosecution has warned that the jury should not be swayed by the star power of Jackson's friends.

Selection is currently delayed, after Jackson was rushed to the hospital early Tuesday morning. The judge has suspended selection proceedings until more is known about Jackson's condition.

Sources: Yahoo News, CNN

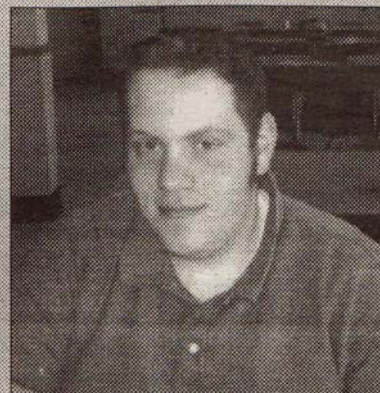
Ask PC

Do you think it's OK to have a law banning pants that are too low?



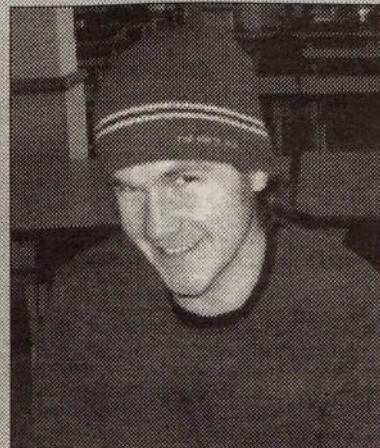
"I think there are more important things governments should worry about."

Marianne Corbishley '05



"I think there are bigger issues in the world than passing laws on how people look."

Tim Blank '07



"No way."

Luke Grymech '07



"I guess as long as people are not exposing themselves they should be able to dress however they want to."

Jamie Gainor '08

COMPILED BY JULIANNE SPOHRER '07
AND ALLISON HERRMANN '07

Week in Review

COMPILED BY NICOLE CHISMAR '07

Local:

A road race with heart

Two hundred and forty residents of Middletown, R.I. participated in a 5K road race on Sunday, Feb. 13, raising over \$120,000 for the family of 11-year-old Sara Powell, who received a heart transplant in December. Having been cleared to go out into public just two weeks earlier, Powell found herself surrounded by dozens of walkers and runners. "It's like a dream I thought would never come true," her mother told journalists. "It's a heart warming feeling." The money earned through Sunday's race exceeded the community's original goal of \$80,000.

National:

Pop superstar to wed

People magazine reported Saturday that pop sensation Christina Aguilera announced her engagement to longtime boyfriend Jordan Bratman. Aguilera, whose music industry awards include a Grammy for best new artist in 1999, has been dating Bratman for more than two years. He proposed to Aguilera on Friday while the couple was vacationing in Saint Tropez. A close friend of Aguilera's noted, "Christina is ecstatic and very surprised."

International:

Death toll climbs in Pakistani storm

Health ministry officials announced on Saturday that at least 424 people have died within the last two weeks as a result of heavy rains and snow in Pakistan. The inclement weather has caused severe flooding, dam breaks, and avalanches, as well as disrupting electricity and phone service. In total, 25,000 to 30,000 people may be affected by its conclusion. Northern neighbor Afghanistan has reported 104 deaths.

Science:

NASA warns of warmest year on record

NASA scientists reported a disturbing finding this week; due to the effects of El Niño and human-made greenhouse gases, 2005 is expected to be recorded as the warmest year since records started being kept in the late 1800s. Last year was the fourth-warmest recorded, with a global temperature of 57 degrees Fahrenheit, noted NASA scientist Drew Shindell in an interview. Carbon dioxide, emitted by automobiles, industries, and utilities, is the most common greenhouse gas. This along with the Earth's increased absorption of ultra-violet rays, which causes less of the sun's energy to be

reflected back into space, is expected to create the increased heat. However, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said on Thursday that the current "weak El Niño will diminish and end during the next three months."

Sports:

Boston Marathon Prize Increased

The organizers of the Boston Marathon announced this week that the prize money for winning the race will be raised by \$20,000 for both men and women's races. The winners will also be awarded bonuses should they set American, or World records in competition. The chief sponsor of the race, John Hancock Insurance, stated that the total purse for the race has been upped to \$575,000, and the winners of the wheelchair race will also receive a \$5,000 increase, up from \$10,000 in previous years.

"By increasing the prize money, we are helping to ensure that this quality race will continue to feature a diverse and world-renowned field of athletes from across the globe," said James Benson, president and chief executive officer of John Hancock Life Insurance. Sources: CNN, The Providence Journal, People Magazine

ODDLY ENOUGH

Low riders to face high fines

Are your pants too low? If so, you had better be careful; lawmakers in Virginia want to fine you for your indiscretion. On Tuesday, Virginia's House of Delegates passed the so-called "Droopy Drawers" Bill which would implement a \$50 fine for people wearing low-riding pants exposing their underwear. Delegate Algie T. Howell, the bill's sponsor, said, "constituents were offended by the exposed underwear." The bill passed the house with a vote of 60-34, and then moved on to the Senate for approval. Those in opposition to the bill such as Delegate Lionell Spruill Sr., pleaded with colleagues to remember their own fashion statements when they were teenagers. The Senate hearing drew a standing room only crowd with many high school students attending. One Virginia student, Elvyn Shaw, said, "If people in Florida can wear bikinis, a little underwear showing isn't going to hurt anybody." The Senate committee unanimously voted against the bill referring to it as a "distraction and embarrassment" to the Virginia government.

Source: CNN, ABC

—KIM KRUPA '07

Fall 2005 hits New York City runways

BY KATHRYN TREADWAY '06

WORLD EDITOR

While Providence still suffers from the cold, moist weather of February, it was autumn in New York City last week, as fashion's top designers, and some

NEWS ANALYSIS newcomers, presented their new Fall 2005 lines. More than 60 runway shows previewed fall styles for buyers and the media.

Kenneth Cole opened this Olympus Fashion Week in NYC, organized by 7th on the Sixth, as he traditionally does, with the first fashion show on Feb. 4 in one of the large white tents that overwhelm Bryant Park. Cole kept his line simple and safe with comfortable jersey dresses, turtle necks, sweater jackets, pleated trousers, and pencil skirts, all of which are current fall staples.

Shortly following Cole's show was Bravo's Project Runway at the Plaza. Bravo's newest hit show gives three unknown designers a shot at their fashion dreams. While the show has still to air, kudos were given to Jay McCarroll for his quilted wraps and layered skirts and Wendy Pepper's multicolored feather corset over a pink silk velvet skirt.

Richard Tyler, an unusual nice guy in the fashion world, took serious criticism for his first show under Delta

airlines sponsorship. With Delta uniforms outnumbering eveningwear on his runway, Tyler faces the dilemma of sinking without sponsorship support or losing important retailer interest in his lines.

Ralph Lauren was classic and chic as always with the simplest overall collection. Lauren credits his own collection of vintage cars as the source of inspiration for his line, specifically gray cashmere and silk ensembles and black wool dresses. He described them as, "sleek, glamorous, and pure luxury with a racy modern edge." Although Lauren's rich style may also be the reason he prefers to present his collection in a downtown art studio rather than the white tents. Calvin Klein and Donna Karan did the same. Michael Kors' body conscious collection combined fashion and skiing, with ski caps topping every ensemble. Kors also had more evening dresses than normal, which eliminated Project Runway contestant, Austin Scarlett, berated by saying it looked, "a little Frederick's of Hollywood." Scarlett may just be a bit bitter at Kors' harsh judgment of his last gown on the Bravo show.

Unlike Lauren or Kors, many of the fashion lines included voluminous shapes such as those by Oscar de la Renta and Marc Jacobs. Donna Karan aimed at a more "romantic" style with pleated and tucked full skirts. Pairing these skirts with chiffon blouses, sheer cashmeres,

and this season's cardigan knits makes Karan's line easy to imitate for the college-age fashionista whose closet has many of these basic staples. Her finale evidenced one of the main themes seen throughout fashion week, the corset.

Diane Von Furstenburg used the Russian Revolution for inspiration in her "Winter Palace" fall collection. Folkloric embroidered and military details triumphs both the fragility and strength of the great heroines of Russian literature. Graphic circle jacquard and chevron stripes dominated her prints, while she used red to offset the winter white, black, and olive that dominated her line.

Baby Phat featured many layered looks with lingerie pieces under jackets. More modest were Narcisco Rodriguez's dresses with slight glimpses of skin through seductive slits, mere hints of a delightful disorder.

Vogue's editor Andre Leon Talley decried the popularization of the NYC Fashion Week affairs stating, "Fashion week has become so Hollywood, so red carpet with too many cameras." Partially responsible for this is Jennifer Lopez, who debuted her new fashion collection, Sweetface, as the closing show on Feb. 11. Her much-awaited show was being filmed by MTV for an hour long special, "Jennifer Lopez: Beyond the Runway." Furthermore quoting Richard Tyler, "You have to be shown in New

York if you want visibility," and no one knows that better than those in London.

Sunday, Feb. 13 began London fashion week where only 48 designers will showcase their work. Known for its cutting-edge style, London has become only a springboard to New York. This season Boudicca, Brian Kirkby, and Zowie Broach, all among the most dramatic of the London designers, moved their shows to New York. Alice Temperly, who has high-end clientele such as Charlize Theron and Gwyneth Paltrow announced this season would be her last London show before moving to New York. In London, there are whispers of inspiration from the frozen tundra of Russia. But the harsh climate impact of Russia may have to compete with African print motifs, multi-layered patterns, or slinky retro looks from the 1930s and 1940s, similar to Lauren's NYC show.

Based on New York's collections and the few seen in London thus far, fall should be full of metallics and layers. Soft silhouettes creating moving poetry of the body with their sculptural lines, appeal to the aesthetic sense heightened by fall's foliage here in New England. Fine fabrics are a must for the fall, and remember you can never go wrong with cashmere.

Sources: Associated Press, Newsday, The San Diego Union Tribune, Olympusfashionweek.com

Weekly Spotlight

BY ANDREW BLAYLOCK '05

WORLD STAFF

"Great drama is great questions or it is nothing but technique." These words were written by Arthur Miller in his autobiography, *Timebends*. The renowned playwright died last week from congestive heart failure at the age of 89 at his home in Roxbury, Conn. At the time of his death, Miller suffered from cancer, pneumonia, and a heart condition.

The son of Jewish immigrants of Polish decent, Miller was born in New York on Dec. 17, 1915. Miller wrote and produced his first play, *The Man Who Had All the Luck* which opened in 1944. Miller's other plays include, *Death of a Salesman*, the recipient of both a Pulitzer and Tony award. He also authored *All My Sons*, *A View from the Bridge*, and, *The Crucible*.

Fellow playwright and friend, Harold

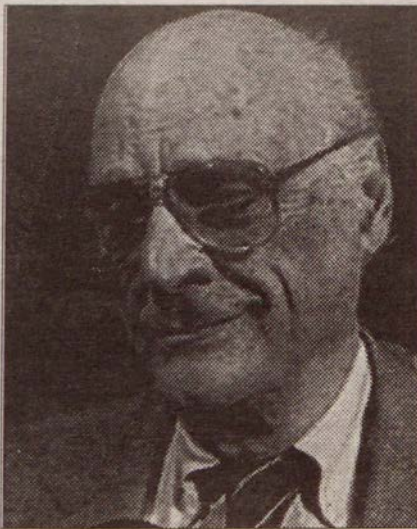
Miller's legacy surpasses death

Printer commented that Miller's plays "Are among the finest works that have ever been produced in the 20th century." *The Crucible*, which was about the 17th century witch trials in Salem, Mass., many say was a metaphor for the communist investigations taking place in the 1950s. Miller was an outspoken opponent of Senator Joseph McCarthy's interrogation and investigation of suspected communist sympathizers.

In 1956, Miller was brought before the House Un-American Activities Committee for refusing to name suspected communists and fellow associates who were deemed to be liberal radicals.

"I always felt it was a deep tragedy that he never won the Nobel Prize," said Robert Weil, executive editor of *W.W. Norton*. "He spoke for both the oppressed and common man in a way that no one else in his generation did."

Miller is also well known for his 1956 marriage with sexual icon Marilyn Mon-



BBC

Arthur Miller, author of *The Crucible*, died last week at 89.

roe, and rightly so; she was a recurring presence in several of his plays. In 1960's *The Misfits*, was written for her,

and in plays from 1964's *After the Fall*, to the recent *Finishing the Picture*, Miller continued to portray Monroe as glamorous yet troubled, and thus as his version of the quintessential expression of the American dream. "With all her radiance," he wrote, "she was surrounded by a darkness that perplexed me."

Miller was a great thinker who believed the essence of America is in its promises. He understood the consequences to those promises when ignorance, fear, and the madness of crowds is exploited by the leaders. His uncomfortable truths were honored as Broadway dimmed its lights Friday.

Former Czech President and playwright, Vaclav Havel said, "I consider him to be the greatest playwright of the 20th century. His death is a great loss for the world of literature."

Sources: Associated Press, Yahoo News

Little Rhody gears up for a big race

BY LESLIE NEVOLA '06
COMMENTARY STAFF

In the fall of 2006, Rhode Island Senator Lincoln Chafee will be up for re-election to the U.S. Senate. This year, however, Chafee is facing some tough competition.

STATE

Since I would argue that being informed is next to godliness (although cleanliness is nothing to be scoffed at), here are some of the facts about the upcoming election that you should take with you to the polls.

First of all, who are the contenders? Well, there's Lincoln Chafee himself. Yes, Chafee runs on the Republican ticket, but judging from his voting record, he is far from conservative in his ideology. Chafee is pro-choice, pro-gay rights, anti-privatization of Social Security, pro-campaign finance reform, pro-environmental reform, pro-affirmative action, and generally favors most social welfare programs. All of his positions can be reviewed in more detail at www.vote-smart.org.

The next contender already announced his candidacy for Chafee's position in a move detractors are calling a "popularity stunt." Current Rhode Island Secretary of State Matt Brown declared that he will run in the Democratic primary in 2006, and if he wins, he will go on to challenge Chafee for his seat in the US Senate. The 35-year-old Providence native has spoken to the press about his views on certain issues since his announcement. He states that he is against the plan to privatize Social Security, favors "safe, legal, and rare" abortions, and favors gun control in the form of mandatory use of safety locks and background checks. He is also against gay marriage, but supports civil unions for gay couples. He says he would not support a constitutional amendment prohibiting gay marriage.

Brown's likely opponent in the Democratic primaries would be James Langevin, currently a US Representative for Rhode Island. Although Langevin has not announced whether or not he will run, and claims to be deferring his decision until April of this year, the R.I. Democratic Party has already mentioned its backing of the Warwick resident.

In a poll conducted for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee by the research institution The Mellman Group, 500 registered voters were surveyed about whom they would vote for in a race between Rep. Langevin and Senator Chafee. According to the poll, 52 percent stated they would vote for Langevin, while 32 percent claimed they would vote for Chafee. 17 percent were undecided.

Langevin is known to be a much more moderate Democrat than Brown, and has even voted less liberally on some issues than Chafee. For example, Langevin voted for the partial-birth abortion ban, as well as the ban on human cloning, including for medical research. He even supported lifting the ban on school prayer during the War on Terror. However, Langevin is generally pro-gun control, and voted against making the recent Bush tax cuts permanent. More information about Langevin's voting record can be found at <http://act-vote.ontheissues.org>.

Last but not least, there is one man who may challenge Sen. Lincoln Chafee in the Republican primary. His name is Stephen Laffey, the current Mayor of Cranston, whose second term ends in 2006. While he has said nothing specific about whether or not he will run against Chafee, many have suggested it, and Laffey has neither denied nor confirmed the idea. While serving as mayor of Cranston, Laffey initiated and passed financial reforms that were unpopular with union workers and many state officials. But each move he made worked to pull Cranston further out of the economic mess left by Laffey's predecessors (Traficante, et. al.). Laffey ran his first campaign on his Harvard Business School education, and happily for the residents of Cranston, the choice has paid off. In recent news, the bond-rating agency, Moody's Investors Service, has declared Cranston "investment grade." They had dropped the city's rating to "junk bond" status during the financial crisis four years ago, but are impressed with the way Laffey has handled the situation, as well as the changes he has made to improve the operation of the School Department. Laffey is a moderate Republican, and has his work cut out for him if he is to run against the name-brand Chafee, who not only has his name and experience behind him, but also the benefit of a state full of liberal voters. However, Laffey cannot be counted out and is someone to watch, along with Brown and Langevin, in the coming months.

So, what will be the result? Do either Brown or Langevin stand a chance against Chafee? And what about Laffey? Can he edge out Chafee plus both Democratic contenders? And then there's always that fated question: will Chafee switch parties? I think it is unlikely, considering the support he already has on the Republican ticket. But one never knows. At any rate, this Senatorial race will be something to keep a close eye on from now until the election in November, 2006.

Residence Life, building a bridge to 1971

BY CHRIS ACKLEY '06
ASST. COMMENTARY EDITOR

After 15 years of formal education, I have learned there are two kinds of people in this world—girls and guys.

CAMPUS

Although separate, they are both equally important for the progression of our species and culture. Contrary to popular belief, women and men share similar interests including: music, candlepin bowling, stylish pants and such and such. One thing that a majority of young men and women enjoy, is the company of those of the opposite sex. Although unexplainable without the use of a TI-83, our enjoyment has been significantly reduced. In yet another attempt to deprave its students of some fundamental understanding of how the world actually works, Providence College has eliminated two of its three coed traditional dormitories.

In the past, society has followed a general trend from ignorance to tolerance. Take the case of the African-American in our country. Actually, let's not. How about the example of *The Daily Show*. Many years ago, *The Daily Show* was hosted by Craig Kilborn. Soon, Kilborn was replaced by current host, Jon Stewart. Some people did

not like this change because it was new, and sometimes things that are new are scary. And it is OK to be scared, as long as we realize that our fears are foolish and ungrounded. Stewart has brought *The Daily Show* to unprecedented levels of credibility and popularity. Anybody still claiming that today's *Daily Show* will never top the good ol' days with Craig Kilborn and "5 Questions" is a lonely weirdo with poor social skills and little understanding of culture.

This brings me to the case of Providence College. After 53 years of dude-guys, we finally opened our doors to women—what a revelation. It looked like this school would acclimate to modern social thought. This is where the trolley really came off the proverbial tracks. Now, for the incoming Class of 2009 there is one coeducational dormitory, a stringent parietals system which forbids members of the opposite sex in each others rooms past midnight on weekdays and 2 am on weekends, and repercussions for breaking these idiotic rules are harsher than the punishments for alcohol, marijuana, and possibly physical assault, but we could not know that. Does anyone else think we live in a cuckoo clock?

So what is the enormous fear behind letting women and men

live together? Touching? Hug dancing? Sex?

Is it merely the threat of consensual pre-marital sex that scares the Catholic brass here at PC? Realistically, coeducational living situations would help sexual relations here at PC immensely. Elizabeth Cady Stanton—a womens rights activist—stated that the segregation of men and women led to an unhealthy pre-occupation with sex and only through progressive measures would we surpass the current novelty of the isolationist system. To translate: If guys and girls lived with each other and interacted regularly, they would build healthier more meaningful relationships instead of meeting trashed at Louie's, sneaking back into their dorms and having sex like it was going out of style.

The sexual climate is at a precarious juncture. Hopefully Dore and McDermott will revert to being co-ed dorms, or perhaps the school will mandate three feet of personal space between coeds to "make room for the Holy Spirit." Either way, I urge all students to move off campus as soon as possible. It is cheaper, more fun, and you can live with guys, girls, dogs, cats—whatever you please—all in perfect harmony.

source: www.beatl.barnard.edu

Free speech creates the liberty to abuse

BY KYLE DRENNEN '07
COMMENTARY STAFF

In recent weeks, a controversy has been brewing regarding comments made by University of Colorado professor Ward Churchill.

NATION

In an essay written shortly after September 11th, Churchill described those who died as "little Eichmanns," comparing them to the Nazi, Adolf Eichmann, one of Hitler's henchmen in charge of the extermination of Jews during World War II. He suggested that the over 3,000 men, women, and children who were murdered on September 11th were hardly innocent and the attacks were the inevitable result of U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East.

For most Americans, statements like this are not only shocking, but disgusting. The idea that the attacks on September 11th could be not only excused, but justified is ridiculous. Nothing that we could have ever done would justify this kind of atrocity. Unfortunately, people like Ward Churchill and other extremists, on both the right and the left, have such a radical view of the world that they believe our nation must be completely broken down and rebuilt in their image of what is best. In reality, the ideas presented by Mr. Churchill only serve to comfort and aid our enemies while further distressing families of Sep-

tember 11th victims.

Under different circumstances I might simply chalk up Churchill's comments to free speech and ignore him. However, given his position as an educator and recent statements he has made in response to the controversy, I cannot simply let it go. Churchill is a teacher of ethnic studies at the University of Colorado and everyday in his classes he has a captive audience that he can indoctrinate with his version of American history, society, and culture. In addition, the university is partially funded by the tax dollars of the people of Colorado, who I am sure do not share his views. Finally, in recent statements regarding what he had written about September 11th, Churchill suggested that there needed to be similar attacks in the future. In his view, any attack on our nation by terrorists would be justified because he believes that the United States is the cause of terrorism.

Once again, Mr. Churchill needs to be brought back to reality. It was the United States that liberated Europe during World War II and closed the concentration camps in Germany, (by the way, Churchill claims that there was never a Nazi policy to exterminate the Jews). It was the United States that lifted the Iron Curtain, freeing millions in Eastern Europe from Soviet domination. Finally, it has been the United States that has freed over 50-

million people in Afghanistan and Iraq by defeating the oppressive regimes of the Taliban and Saddam Hussein. I do not believe that Churchill should be fired for his political views, or even because of his call for the deaths of more Americans, though these are important considerations. He should be fired due to his complete incompetence in his knowledge of American history and culture.

People like Churchill view the United States as the villain and terrorists as heroic freedom fighters. They believe that our nation is no better than the Roman Empire, fueled only by ambition, wealth, and self-proclaimed superiority. Unfortunately, I cannot silence Ward Churchill and others like him for his views. Although I do believe that he should be fired from the University of Colorado and banned from other speaking engagements—I cannot demand anything more. Even these demands may not be met. The reason for this is because Churchill has the right to say whatever he wants as an American citizen. The very country he despises is the one that is most tolerant of his hatred. He has this right because of the brave men and women who have fought and died defending this country. The same men and women who are fighting and dying defending it today. Churchill should keep this in mind the next time he feels the urge to speak out.

Tangents and Tirades

Well Valentine's Day has come and gone...still no love for the Commentary section. No worries, here are a few more reasons to never involve yourself with newspaper people.

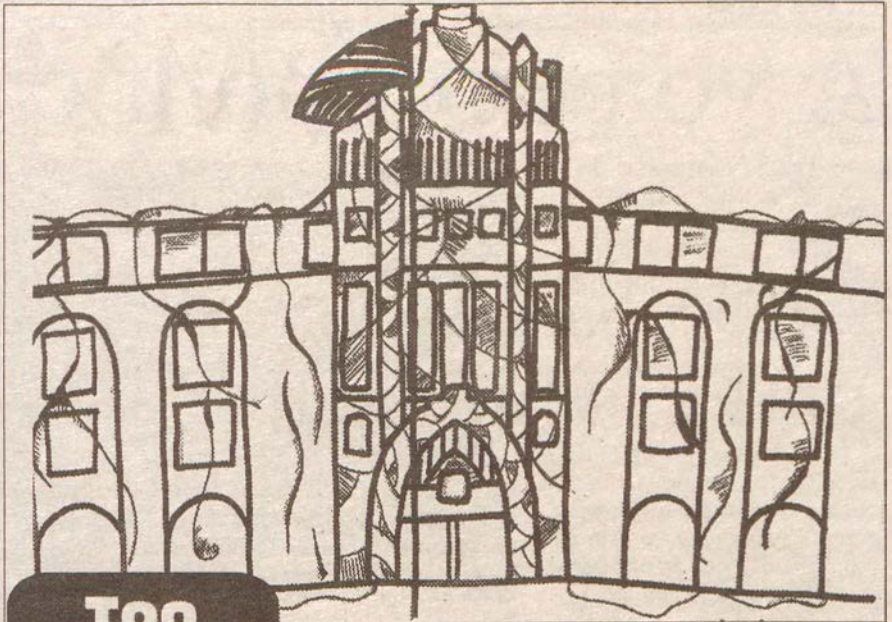
Hit up The Gates If you have any free time in the next two weeks, I highly recommend that you take a trip down to New York City and see Christo and Jean-Claude's amazing project in Central Park, entitled "The Gates." Simple post and lentil structures adorned with fabric are scattered through the Park and transform an already breath-taking stroll into a truly artistic experience. Amazing views of the project can be seen from the roof of the Metropolitan Museum. Christo pieces are short-lived and very rare, so get down to New York as soon as possible to see this once-in-a-lifetime spectacle. —Jon McGrath '05

Baby you can park my car This weekend my parents came to visit me for upperclassmen parent's weekend. On Saturday, we went out to dinner on Federal Hill and then went to Providence Place Mall to take in a movie (the movie was *Hitch*; I highly recommend it). It was a pleasant evening until we wanted to leave the mall parking garage. We were about four or five levels up when we came to a halt behind a line of stopped cars that spiraled all the way to the ground level. We finally emerged on the streets of Providence about a half-hour later. If you ask me, life is too short to spend this amount of time in a garage, but at least we had our parking ticket checked for validation. —Kyle Drennen '07

New halls with thin walls OK I know I sang the praises of the Smith Building two weeks ago, but now I have a complaint. None of the rooms are sound-proof. Not even the concert hall. Doesn't that kind of defeat the purpose of having a brand new building devoted to music, theater, dance, and film? If a singing group practices at the same time as the orchestra, this could become a real problem. And yes, it has happened already at least once. So, can something be done about this? I would hate for there to be such a damper on an otherwise wonderful facility. —Leslie Nevola '06

Spring break blues So my roommates and I have been discussing what we will do for Spring Break, and we have all come to the conclusion that we have absolutely no money to do anything. Thus, we will all likely be going home to work for that week. However, it seems that everyone I talk to is going to some exotic tropical place, such as Brazil or Costa Rica. So my burning question is, where do these people get all this money? I mean unless they have been saving since last semester, which in most cases I find highly unlikely, they must be mooching off of their parents. And that just seems really unfair to me—probably because my parents refuse to give me money for something as superfluous as a Spring Break trip. So to everyone going away in a couple weeks—I hope you return with malaria and spider eggs embedded in very uncomfortable places. Or that you lose your passport and get thrown in some third-world prison and are never able to return at all. Peace. —Caitlin Ford '05

Court Courtesy This past weekend I decided to break ground on my New Year's resolution and hit up the basketball courts for the first time in months. When I arrived in Alumni, there was already a game going on. So, like any awkward skinny white kid, I stretched my hamstrings, did some trunk twists and waited my turn. I had some herbal refreshments before leaving the house—big cup of Earl Gray—and I couldn't really follow the game, so after what seemed like an absurd amount of time for a game to 15, I asked another kid waiting to play what was going on in this game. He informed me that the kids that were playing had already finished their game to 15, but were "running it back" (playing again) in order to finish their best of three series. When I said that was ridiculous, he justified their actions by saying that they were playing for money. It didn't anger me so much that these kids would be so inconsiderate to assume they deserved to be on the court more than the handful of their peers patiently waiting to play a game, but rather that these kids were playing for money and most of them didn't even bother to get back on defense. Get a life. —Chris Ackley '06



Too Hot For Words

Christo's lesser-known works include: the controversial "Wrapping of Harkins Hall." by Kelly Jones '07

Letters to the Editor :

A Catholic political perspective

Since the Roman Catholic Church is not a democracy and all its members are expected to adhere to Catholic teachings and canon law, I wish to comment on "One underclassman finds mentor at PC" in last week's *The Cowl* by Asst. Head Copy Editor Adam D. Roach '06.

Mr. Roach has been exuberant over shaking hands with Senator John Kerry (D-Mass.) at the Copley Westin in Boston. Since Mr. Roach attends a Catholic college, I do not find this to be a big deal. My rationale for saying this is because Sen. Kerry calls himself a practical Catholic, which in my humble opinion is not Sen. Kerry because he is an advocate of abortion, partial birth procedure and stem-cell research, which are all opposed by the Catholic Church. Sen. Kerry has relegated himself by these actions to being a "pick-and-choose" Catholic.

Mr. Roach wrote in his commentary "There exists at this institution a group of students (as a former PC student I wish to be included) who interpret the Catholic faith and refuse to consider any other interpretation...This group's narrow views, along with its foray into

the realm of politics, represents one of the challenges that this institution will have to overcome in the future. Political courage will be needed in facing this challenge."

I wish to mention to Mr. Roach that President George W. Bush raised his share of the Catholic vote from 47 percent in 2000 to 52 percent in 2004. In Ohio, the President received 55 percent of the vote. In Florida, President Bush's share of the Catholic vote was 57 percent in 2004. This should tell you something, Mr. Roach, if the Democrats wish to win the White House in 2008.

In conclusion, I did not vote for either President Bush or Sen. Kerry in 2004. However, I did vote for a candidate. I have also been a registered Democrat for many years. I voted in my first Presidential Election, when I was 23, for Harry S. Truman in 1948. I will be 80 in a few weeks.

Watch your backs as terrorism is still with us. Support our military and God bless America. Peace.

RUSSELL P. DEMOE '73

COWL LETTERS POLICY

The Cowl welcomes guest commentaries and Letters to the Editor from all members of the Providence College community, as well as outside contributors.

All submissions must include the writer's name, signature, and a phone number where they can be reached. Articles will be printed as space permits. Letters should be no more than 250 words in length. Guest commentaries should be limited to 700 words in length and only one will be published per week. *The Cowl* editorial board and its administrative supervisors reserve the right to edit articles and letters for space and clarity.

However, if there is a portion you specifically wish to remain unchanged, please inform the Editor-in-Chief. Letters to the Editor are the opinions of the writer only

and do not reflect the viewpoint of *The Cowl* staff.

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THE COWL

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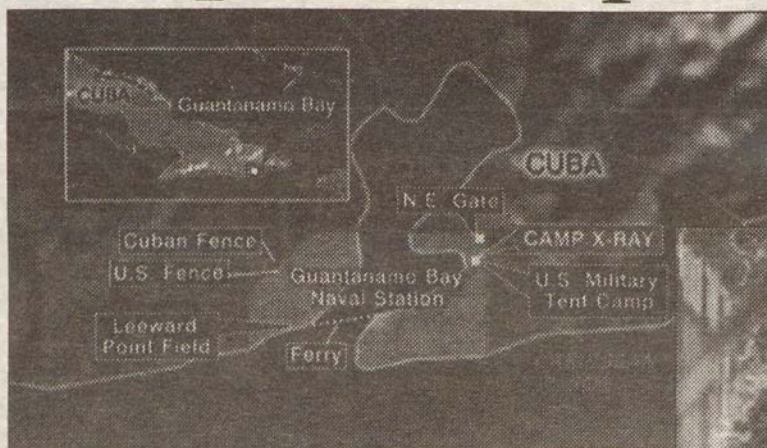
A voice for political prisoners in Cuba

BY TERENCE SWEENEY '06
COMMENTARY STAFF

When I was in 4th grade, Sister Mary taught me many valuable lessons. One was that the quality of a person was proved when no one was looking. Just being good when the teacher was there did not mean that we are always good. What counted was proving yourself when no one could punish you or when no one cared about what you were doing.

This is a value that has stuck with me all these years and one that that our Presidential administration, and nation as a whole, is not living up to. Because no one is looking at Guantanamo Bay, no one cares about the 536 people who are being held there indefinitely with no real means of exonerating themselves. Well, I think it is about time people start looking, people start caring, and that America stands for justice once more.

What we now need are people who will condemn our modern American injustice. In 2001 after the Sept. 11 attacks the United States invaded Afghanistan to defeat the Taliban and Al-Qaeda centered there. Since then, the United States has established a prison in Guantanamo Bay in Cuba which now holds 536 alleged terrorists. While initially justifiable as a response to the Sept. 11 attacks, the administration has proven that this is no tem-



Above, a map of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The area is the site of a United States Military prison camp that has been the subject of much criticism, both in the U.S. and abroad. At right, prison inmates at Guantanamo Bay kneel in an outdoor area of the prison camp, while their military guards keep a watchful eye over them.



porary solution. They intend to hold those prisoners as long as they please, with no sign of any legal proceedings to verify guilt.

The United States of America, the supposed bastion of justice and human rights, now runs one of the largest internment camps in the world. Our claims to being a nation of laws and inalienable rights are proven to be a joke everyday as people are detained with no representation, no legal proceedings, and no hope of release.

And why is this so? Because the U.S. government claims that non-U.S. citizens do not have the right to trial, the right to an attorney, or the right to commu-

nicate with their families. Fundamentally, the administration does not believe in justice or human rights.

Human rights and justice are not privileges handed down by the government to a lucky few. If there are rights, and if justice is a moral value, then they must be universally applicable. They cannot belong only to Americans. Human rights are not synonymous with American rights—they belong to each human being.

The United States was founded on the principles of the Declaration of Independence which were then formulated into law by the Constitution.

The Declaration of Independence states "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights." It does not say that certain people have rights, that only Americans have rights, that a government hands out those rights, or that people accused of terrorism do not have rights. It states that all people have God-given unalienable rights. The Bill of Rights was created to codify those rights and one of those rights is "the right to a speedy and public trial." That right is in the tradition of the Declaration. America can not honestly claim to be a just nation while this

right is suspended.

Our government—and specifically the Bush Administration—has betrayed justice and ignored human rights. And the situation worsens as news of the mistreatment of prisoners spreads. British citizens who were detained for three years before they were proven innocent by the British intelligence services cite cases of physical mistreatment, weeks in solitary confinement, and forced confessions. If you thought that American torture was over, it is not. It continues 90 miles off the coast of Florida on American soil. And of 536 prisoners at Guantanamo Bay it is becoming clear that many are innocent. But they have no chance to prove it. Many may be guilty, but our government should be showing trust in the ability of our justice system to prove that.

But our President and our Government do not truly believe in justice. They think that when no one is looking and when no one cares that they can do what ever they want. So let's remember what Sister Mary, our teachers, and parents have taught us. If the Bush administration does not want to defend justice when no one is looking, then let's start looking, and start protesting. Let's get angry at our nation's wrongs. Because our generation will be judged by whether we take stands on issues like these, and our nation will be judged by its dedication to human rights and justice.

Sources: www.globalsecurity.org, *New York Times*

Actual facts, but mixed messages

BY JON MCGRATH '05
COMMENTARY STAFF

A few weeks ago, I wrote an article about my trip to Nicaragua. I described a third world country's horrid living conditions and the guilt I experienced having

REBUTTAL

come from a country where we not only have money to spend, but money to waste. The content of my article was so obvious and non-confrontational that I did not expect any negative feedback. Poverty is tragic and less-fortunate countries deserve a better chance, right? Wrong.

It turns out a student here was so violently opposed to my article that he wrote a guest commentary tearing my article apart and making me look like some wealthy American conquistador in Gucci sunglasses, concerned only with destroying the lives of Nicaraguans everywhere. I wonder if he mistook my article for something he read on Bill O'Reilly's website, otherwise I am completely baffled by his objection.

The thing that irks me most about this article—entitled "The real America is not all fun in the sun"—is the author's complete misinterpretation and revision of my once-innocent article. For example, writes "and of course, the author would not complain about the neighborhoods that were seen in Nicaragua, since it is not affecting him personally."

This statement was surprising to me, as the bulk of my article is a complaint about

the neighborhoods that "were impoverished to the point of heartbreak," and how I "was horrified to see the condition of [the] homes" within said neighborhoods.

He cited statistics on Rhode Island shelters, Federal Housing Support and our country's ever-widening earnings gap. I cannot help feeling that this person did not read my article. If he wishes to argue that things in this country are not as great as I described in my previous article, then I wish to hear his opinions with open ears.

But is he implying that I am unaware of poverty in America? Of course I am aware, and perhaps that is grounds for a future article, but I was writing about poverty on a massive scale in a foreign country. So, the statistics were much appreciated, but bare very little relevance to the point I was trying to convey.

This author's article is structured in such a way as to cram as many political buzz words into a 500-700 word essay as humanly possible. But did he really need to use my article—a non-judgemental piece arguing that a free but well-regulated world market would balance out economic inequalities both here and abroad—as means to his end?

As if this was not enough, this author then quoted other articles of mine in an attempt to undermine me further. He referred to a satirical *Tirade* I wrote in which I said I wanted to be a PC off-campus slumlord.

Interestingly enough, I do not actually want to be a slumlord, but rather I was criticizing the standard of our

off-campus housing by posing as the person I mean to condemn. I thought this was obvious, but I suppose it was a tad presumptuous to assume that all of my readers had a sense of humor. My bad.

This author uses an age-old method of trying to make me look like some stupid rich kid in order to make himself appear "street," and therefore correct. I was not aware that a \$300 plane ticket bumped me up into the next tax bracket, but I can play along. Unfortunately for this author, even if I were a stupid rich kid, his article, in my opinion, would still fail to address any of the arguments I put forth.

When I get such violent objections such as this, it makes me question who I am actually writing to at this school. I recently wrote an article that advocated tolerance towards homosexuals here on campus, and a grossly misinformed student responded, describing homosexuality as a "disorder" similar to cancer.

Now I have this new article that paints me as a snob, looking my nose down at those I wished to defend in the first place. It seems I have become rather controversial at this school, so here is my solution: next week, I will write an article entirely about Paris Hilton. What parties she attends, what she is wearing and who she is dating.

It is my hope that if I completely remove myself from anything important, I will not receive any further slanderous responses. But then again, Paris Hilton could write in. If that happens, I give up.

Source: *The Cowl*



BY CAITLIN FORD '05
COMMENTARY EDITOR

President George W. Bush announced his 2006 budget this week. The federal subsidy for Amtrak was completely cut, and was included in the over \$2 trillion in program cuts.

Amtrak now serves 46 of the 50 states, and for many of those states it is the only passenger train service available. When their federal endowment drops from the current \$1.2 billion to zero, there will be no option but to cut most or all of this service—leaving many states with only third-world travel methods.

Amtrak does have much congressional support, however, which will make Bush's proposed cuts difficult to pass. The strongest support comes from the U.S. coastal regions, which are largely urban, Democratic-leaning areas. These same areas lost the 2004 election, so their influence may not be strong enough to fully tilt the scales in Amtrak's direction.

On the other hand, many Midwestern Senators and Congress-people have spoken out against the Amtrak cuts in the past week. In states like Montana and Iowa, where people have to travel expansive distances for work and other aspects of commerce, cutting passenger train lines would almost destroy their economies. These

Proposed Amtrak cuts spell trouble for the U.S.

states, from which Bush received much of his support, will definitely be the hardest hit, as the lines in this section of the country do not make a profit, as the Northeast Corridor Line does.

Thus, while the coastal cities of the Northeast and West have been the most vocal advocates of Amtrak, their transportation systems will—for the most part—stay intact.

Besides the practical implications of completely cutting passenger train service throughout the country, such a move would be fraught with environmental perils.

For example, aircraft travel greatly contributes to the amount of noise and air pollution in our country, and one would think that such travel would increase without other options. The number of automobiles on the road would also be likely to increase dramatically, because many commuter rail services are actually run by Amtrak. People who have relied on Amtrak until now for their daily commutes would not have to look for other alternatives, and the most cost-effective for many would be driving. In 2002, John Robert Smith, head of Amtrak's Board of Directors, stated that we "literally spend more collecting road kill" from the side of highways than we spend on the rail service.

Sources: *The Boston Globe*, *MSNBC*

A living legend

He's been in the business for over four decades, but Clint Eastwood continues to deliver quality films to this day

BY PAT EGAN '05
ASST. A&E EDITOR

A few weeks ago, I wrote a review of Clint Eastwood's latest film, the Oscar-nominated *Million Dollar Baby*. The film is fantastic, probably the best piece

MOVIE FEATURE

of work Eastwood has done in his entire career, both as an actor and a director.

It's a powerful, emotionally devastating film that many people will simply dismiss because they think it's just another underdog sports movie. It's not, but I can't tell you why. You'll have to see it for yourself, and then you'll realize what an accomplished, gifted storyteller Eastwood really is. With that in mind, I thought I'd take this time to point out a few other Eastwood films, some of which you may have seen, and others that you may have not. They're all worth watching, and each one shows that Eastwood is something much more than some outdated star from the old days in Hollywood:

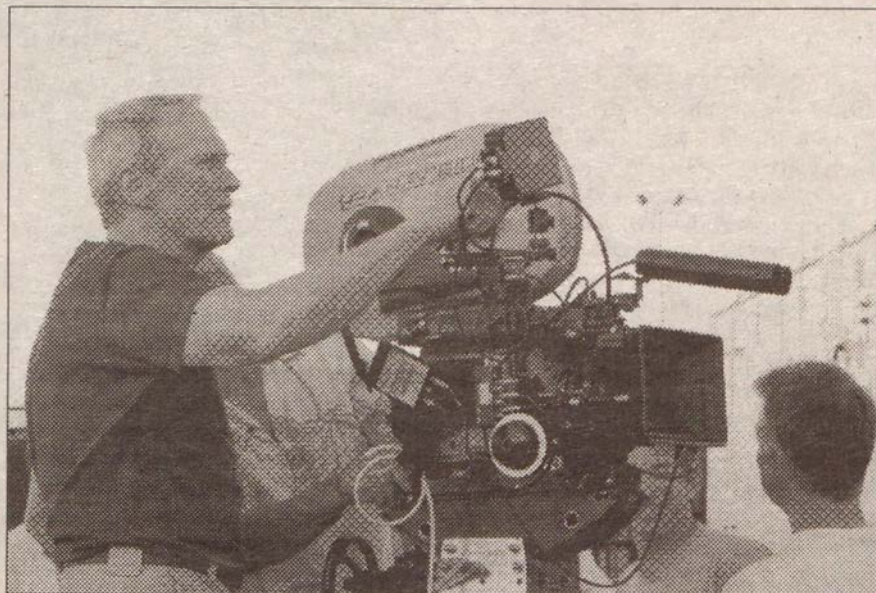
In the Line of Fire

Director: Wolfgang Peterson

In this 1993 nailbiter, Eastwood plays Secret Service Agent Frank Horrigan, a man entangled in a deadly game of cat-and-mouse with an assassin (John Malkovich) hoping to put a bullet in the President. Sounds like it's been done a thousand times before, I know, but this is easily one of the most suspenseful, exciting films you're ever likely to see. If you're looking for a movie to keep you on the edge of your seat, this one's your best bet. Rene Russo and Dylan McDermott costar.

A Perfect World

Director: Clint Eastwood



Lights, camera, action: Clint Eastwood on the set of his latest film, *Million Dollar Baby*. He may be known best for his work in front of the camera, but Eastwood's expertise extends to direction as well.

This 1993 drama ranks up there with Eastwood's best work. Set in the 1960s South, the film stars Kevin Costner as Robert Haynes, an escaped convict who takes a little boy hostage as he tries to elude the authorities. Eastwood leads the pursuit as Chief Red Garnett. The film isn't quite that simple, though, as Costner's character forms a bond with the little boy and we see that Haynes isn't really all that bad. *A Perfect World* is much more a character-driven drama than an action film, and the ending just might have you reaching for a tissue to dry your tears.

Absolute Power

Director: Clint Eastwood

This 1997 political thriller boasts an all-star cast that includes Eastwood, Gene Hackman, Ed Harris, Laura Linney, Scott Glenn, and Dennis Haysbert. Eastwood is Luther Whitney,

a master thief who finds himself caught in a web of intrigue and deception after witnessing a murder committed by the President (Hackman). This is an intricate, deliberately paced thriller that will keep you guessing right up to the very end as to how things are going to play out. If you're a fan of political thrillers or murder mysteries, check this one out. It won't disappoint.

Space Cowboys

Director: Clint Eastwood

This 2000 adventure film marks a change of pace for Eastwood as director. Traditionally a simple, no frills filmmaker, Eastwood uses countless special effects shots here to tell the story of four over-the-hill pilots given one last chance of realizing their lifelong dream of heading out into space. Costarring Tommy Lee Jones, James Garner, and Donald Sutherland,

Space Cowboys is a must-see for anyone looking for a film with both humor and excitement to spare. The cast alone makes this one well worth the rental fee at Blockbuster.

Blood Work

Director: Clint Eastwood

Based on Michael Connelly's novel of the same name, this 2002 murder-mystery is traditional Clint Eastwood. Eastwood is Terry McCabe, a former FBI profiler taken out of the game by a heart attack. Given a new heart and a second chance, McCabe finds himself hunting down the killer of the woman whose heart now beats in his chest. This one may not be for everyone, as it moves slowly and relies much more on piecing together a puzzle than on action and thrills. In the hands of anyone else, *Blood Work* could have been a misfire. Thanks to Eastwood, though, here's a murder-mystery for real fans of the genre.

Mystic River

Director: Clint Eastwood

Eastwood stayed behind the camera for this powerful 2003 drama. The film stars Sean Penn, Tim Robbins, and Kevin Bacon as three childhood friends who find their relationships tested as they are torn apart by unthinkable abuse and murder. This is a dark drama, one that deals with subject matter that may make some uncomfortable. Nonetheless, it is a brilliant film that won both Penn and Robbins Academy Awards, and as far as I'm concerned, should have taken home the Best Picture Oscar (it went to *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*). Next to *Million Dollar Baby*, *Mystic River* is Eastwood's best film.

Hitch a ride with Will

Will Smith's latest is a Valentine's Day crowd-pleaser

BY JAMES McGEHEE '08
A&E STAFF

I bring along two items when seeing a movie. Popcorn and soda? Nope. With my luck, soda will have me running to the restroom during the movie's key moment. *What just happened?* *Bruce Willis was dead the entire time?* *You're such a liar.* And the popcorn? Once you have worked in movie concession and cleaned a greasy popcorn machine, you will never slip a buttery ball of white corn into your mouth again.

MOVIE REVIEW

A pad of paper and a pen it is. Jotting down random thoughts helps when the time to construct a coherent review arrives. During *Hitch*, a romantic comedy about "Date Doctor" Alex Hitchens (Will Smith), I found myself scribbling not only my likes and dislikes about the movie, but the Date Doctor's signature advice: "90 percent of what

you say isn't coming out of your mouth." Good, because I tend to say weird stuff to girls in my attempts to be creative. "If you are rejected, try harder." Perseverance is necessary, but what happens when you persist so much that the girl calls you a stalker and files sexual harassment charges? Our friendly neighborhood Date Doctor, nicknamed Hitch, never answers that one.

As a dating consultant, Hitch's job is to set up his clients with their dream girl (he only serves males), and guide them through the first three dates. After those three dates, each man is on his own. Hitch's newest client is Alfred Brenneman (Kevin James), a neurotic, clumsy accountant, who has no luck with women. Realizing his growing desperation, the lowly accountant calls upon the Date Doctor.

Who is the lucky girl? She is Allegra Cole, a powerful, rich woman whose name and picture appear in the gossip column every week. Both men realize



Dating for dummies: Will Smith (left) teaches Kevin James (right) the ways of the woman in *Hitch*, a romantic comedy that just might leave you smiling.

Allegra is way out of Alfred's league, but they will go for it anyway (Hitch is still getting paid, so what does he care?). Although Hitch works miracles in the relationships of others, he has somehow never found the right woman for himself. Then one night at the single's bar, he lays eyes upon Sara Melas (Eva Mendes), an overworked gossip column writer, who uncovers the trash that keeps stuffy 50-year-old women reaching for the

newsstands. Hitch is attracted to Sarah and manages to secure a date with the woman whose recent efforts include exposing Allegra Cole's love life. Hitch makes wooing the "I don't want a boyfriend" journalist look easy—too easy. His game is all about smooth delivery and confidence, piled on top of his basic principles.

Hitch is lighthearted entertainment

HITCH/Page 14

Picks of the Week

BY STEPHANIE A. SMITH '06
A&E EDITOR

Movie

Jurassic Park
Directed by Steven Spielberg

Let's revisit an old favorite, friends. *Jurassic Park* is one of the best movies to ever grace the silver screen. I once watched it nine times in one day when I was home sick. Sam Neill had never looked better. He does for khaki pants what Paris Hilton does for blond extensions. It just looks right. The suspense, the terror and the big pile of dinosaur poop will not let you down. Also, I played the theme in 7th grade band. This movie just means so much to me.

Music

Rachel Yamagata
Happenstance
RCA

I used to only listen to high energy music. Music was my tool for getting hyped up—while getting ready in the morning, before a big night out, you get the idea. But now, I have come to enjoy the pleasures of quiet music; music for chilling out. My sister introduced me to Rachel Yamagata as she is a chill-out music guru. I found that this CD is perfect for listening in the shower. After one too many dancing in the shower and slipping accidents, I have decided that Yamagata and her kind are really where it's at.

Book

The Complete Works of e.e. cummings
Poems by e.e. cummings

Cummings is my second favorite poet and although it may seem to some that his poems are completely impenetrable, for some reason I find them easier to understand sometimes than poetry in plain language. He uses words and punctuation as symbols and the emotions that result are really beautiful. Moreover, Cummings was a prisoner of war in France during World War I, but loved the country so much that he returned. I have no particular affections for France, but wow. What emotional strength that man had.

Urban Elements

Hip-hop down the court

The rap world has found itself mixed up with the NBA, much to the detriment of both

BY MIKE HOLLAND '06
A&E STAFF

During an NBA basketball game, you might ask yourself why you hear rap music in the background during plays and ads for urban active wear during commercial breaks. And if you choose to succumb to the masochism of watching rap music videos on MTV, you might wonder why there are always throwback jerseys and professional ballers dancing with the half-naked video chicks. It has always been an unwritten rule for athletes to stay athletes and not cross the uncharted abyss into the art of emceeing, but even with rappers and basketball players staying in their separate niche, it seems that rap music and professional basketball have established a tight relationship, whether fans like it or not.

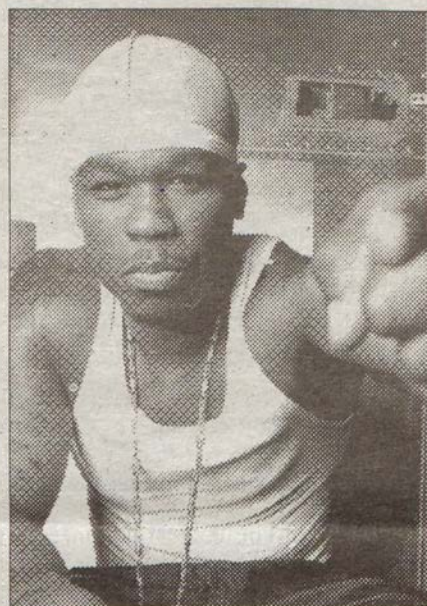
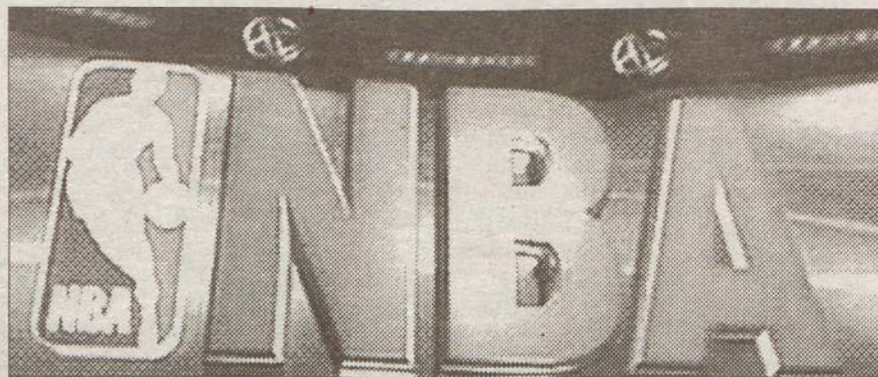
The other night I was watching the Sacramento Kings vs. the Dallas Mavericks. As Mike Bibby brought the ball up the court and passed it to Chris Webber while everyone else on the court remained motionless, I noticed that 50 Cent's tiresome hit "In da Club" was persisting in the background. I've been to plenty of Boston Celtics games before and always heard these trendy club tracks during timeouts and breaks between quarters, but this was new. Now they play the music *during* the game. I'm watching this possession wondering if Brad Miller's going to post up or start busting out the crip walk. He didn't do either, and Webber got sent to the foul line. At least they let him take his free throws in silence.

I'm not saying this because I chug Hater-ade on the sidelines. I just get frustrated when two things I love are hurting each other. I understand that a huge part of this synergy has to do with commercialism, since both sports and rap sell, but it's almost impossible to get a taste of one without the other these days.

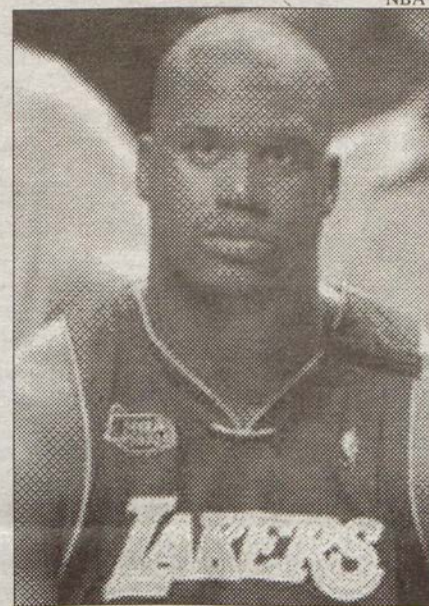
First, there are the music videos. Shaq, the most dominant player of his time, has been in a number of videos, but I don't really have a huge problem with that. He is more than a basketball player, he is a celebrity and always merits attention when put in front of a camera. What gets me angry are videos with Stephon Marbury and Cutino Mobley. What have these two guys done, other than not win a championship that merits them a spot in a music video? Do you think Michael Jordan or Larry Bird would be caught dead in a rap video? I can't help but feel like the rappers who flaunt these ballers are doing it because they have something to prove. It seems like they're not letting the music speak for itself, but pushing a call for legitimization because they have an all-star reserve singing the chorus.

Just as bad are the rappers who try to take their music business enterprises into the NBA. Jay-Z has gone through pains to put himself in the ownership spot of a professional basketball organization, and P. Diddy got rejected from taking over the new Charlotte Bobcats expansion team. Not a big deal for him though, since Sean John signed a contract with the Dallas Mavericks to provide jerseys for them next season. Maybe acid-washed warm-ups will help them get a championship.

Looking at it from a sociological standpoint, I can see how professional basketball and rap music could so readily



G-UNIT



NBA

The new Renaissance man can rap and shoot hoops: 50 Cent (left) had a big hit with "In Da Club" and now it plays in the background as Shaq (right) takes it to the hole and slams it down. Sounds cool, but rappers and ballers should be keeping their distance.

come together. The majority of both have their place in urban America, and both are encouraged as ways out of poverty in certain low-income demographic areas. As the late Biggie Smalls exhorted in his "Things Done Changed" about getting out of the ghetto, "Either you're slingin' crack rock or you got a wicked jump-shot." Additionally, both rap and basketball reflect a certain level of battle mentality and the competition between egos. Both require talent and innovation and involve improvisation and virtuosity. The problem is, at least on a professional level, they belong separate.

The give-and-take relationship between the NBA and rap is contributing

to their collective demise mostly because they are both essentially businesses, and as such are diverting from their roots in hopes of gaining the highest return. It's hard to blame them, too, since it sells. I just think both had better check up on themselves before it gets too late. Both are resisting their original paths, and both are hurting each other. NBA basketball has already gotten to be way too dry and sometimes predictable; it lacks hustle, heart, team play, and camaraderie, and I don't even think that blaring club hits at maximum volume will distract fans from it. Until they separate themselves and shape up, I'll just sit nice with college hoops and the artistic prowess of the underground.

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BY BRIAN WALL '05
A&E STAFF

An Open Letter to the Recording Academy:

I didn't watch the Grammy awards this year because I didn't have to—I

MUSIC FEATURE

already knew how they would turn out. Instead, I decided to spare myself from

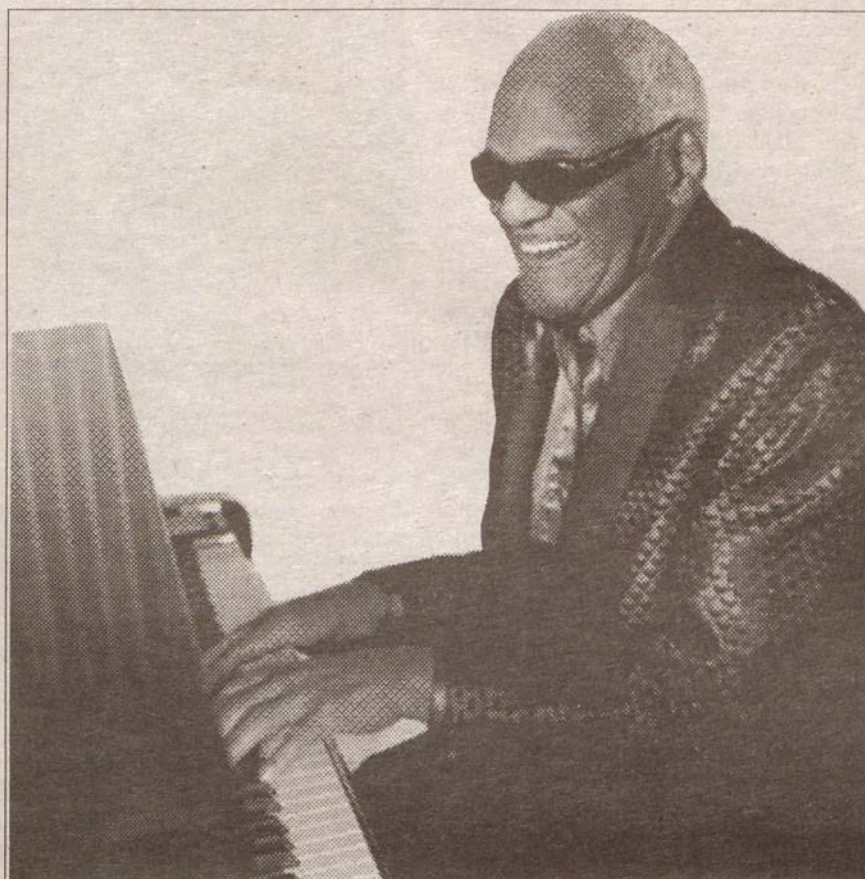
the torture of sitting through a ceremony that drags on much longer than it should to see a bunch of celebrities clap politely for meaningless awards. I don't know a nicer way of putting it, but the Grammy Awards have a number of problems. For years, the knock on the Grammy Awards has been that they are out of touch with popular music (a fact that this year's winners seem to suggest). However, I find some more pressing issues with the show that need to change. Therefore, I present to you my list of improvements to make the Grammy Awards tolerable.

1. Significantly cut down on the number of awards.

Anyone who watched the awards this year saw the endless scroll of awards running through the bottom of the screen. In addition to having far too many awards, many of these awards are redundant. Do we really need separate awards for Best Rock Song and Best Rock Performance by a Duo or Group? This entirely leaves out the numerous awards that are far more specific than necessary. These include Best Engineered Album, Non-Classical or Best Spoken Word Album for Children. If I had my way, the show would feature five awards: Album of the Year, Record of the Year (awarded to producer and performer), Song of the Year (awarded to the songwriter), and Best New Artist. Aside from these awards, eliminate the others or hand them out at another time.

2. Keep the performances but shorten the show.

Awards shows are always too long. By eliminating all of the redundant awards the show would move along a lot quicker. I would like to keep the show to two hours, presenting one of the four awards every half hour and fill in the rest of the time with performances. Strangely enough, these performances are a more accurate reflection of popular music than the award recipients. Perhaps the Grammy Awards could invite all of the



CONCORD

Record of the Year nominees to perform (similar to how the Oscars include all of the Best Song from a Film nominees). Furthermore, the performances offer a great opportunity for sentimentality by having artists perform tributes. One of the few moments I actually caught this year was when Melissa Etheridge sang a passionate tribute to Janice Joplin. Her vocal intensity mimicked Joplin's earthy vocals perfectly as she seemingly channeled her spirit on stage.

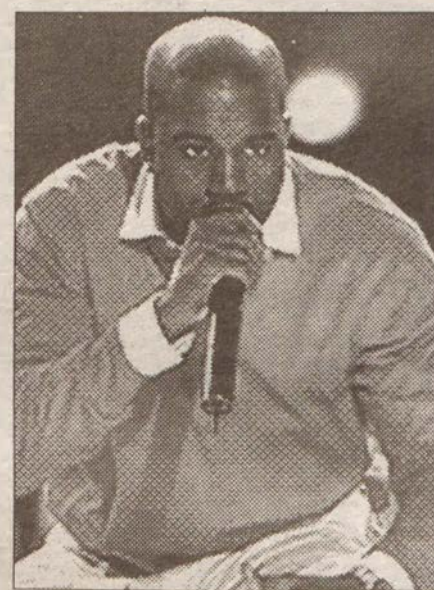
3. Leave sentimentality at the door.

Seriously, it was a sad day when Ray Charles passed away. Somehow, I have a hard time believing that if he were still breathing that *Genius Loves Company* still would be the Album of the Year. We see this time and time again—the Recording Academy lets their supposedly well-trained ears get clouded by nostalgic feelings for a once great artist (as when Steely Dan received the Grammy they should have won in the 1970s for their 2000 comeback *Two Against Nature*) or for a recently deceased performer. Ray Charles was a music visionary who contributed towards the progress of

African American performers as well as the right for artists to own their own recordings. However, Charles should earn the Grammy just like everyone else; if *Genius Loves Company* truly is the year's best album, then why isn't it ubiquitous like previous winners such as Santana's *Supernatural* or Norah Jones' *Come Away with Me*?

4. Make a change in who gets to vote.

I understand that the Grammy Awards are the Recording Academy's party and they get to vote on the awards. However, how can we expect someone who engineers classical albums to be familiar with Alicia Keys or Kanye West (my personal pick for Album of the Year)? While academy members only vote on awards in their particular field, everyone gets to vote for the big awards. Therefore, it would make sense to change the voting for at least the four main awards. Perhaps the academy could include media professionals (either well-respected critics or editors of important publications) who earn a living keeping up with popular music.



ROCAPELLA

A deserving College Dropout: Kanye West (above) may have deserved to win the Grammy for Album of the Year, but the award instead went to the late Ray Charles (left). Did the Recording Academy make the right decision?

Think about it—baseball writers and veteran players vote for the Hall of Fame and prominent journalistic figures vote for the Pulitzer Prize. The least that the Recording Academy could do is enlist voters familiar with the subject matter.

I understand that these suggestions, however logical they seem, have zero chance of changing the status quo. It is unfortunate that the Grammy Awards are no longer a night that celebrates the past year in recorded music but rather are merely another show in the endless menagerie of awards shows that concentrate on style over substance. However, this is the culture that we live in—one where the networks feel that the American public values what the nominees wear and how they look over the awards themselves. In closing, I strongly urge the Recording Academy to look at one figure: the ratings for this year's show were the lowest in the past 10 years. This tells me that people aren't clamoring to watch the numerous, and more often than not boring awards that the Recording Academy presents and, therefore, something must change.

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Anna Kukowski '06
A&E staff

Want to be this happy? Join the A&E staff and experience the joys of the arts in Providence. Applications are available in Slavin G05.

That's Amore

Festival Ballet's newest project explores the ins and outs of love through the medium of dance

BY ANNA KUKOWSKI '06
A&E STAFF

Well love has certainly been in the air this past week. Red hearts and lots of chocolate overflow in the kitchen... Meg Ryan movies play nonstop on

THEATER REVIEW

TBS...and romantic music fills the air. Whether we like it or not,

Valentine's Day has come again.

And Festival Ballet has once again catered to the current holiday—and this time instead of witches swarming around on All Hallow's Eve, it has devised three heartwarming mini love plots within *Con Amore* and *Schéhérazade*.

Con Amore, a short ballet by Lew Christiansen which premiered in 1953, made its entrance into the VMA Arts and Cultural Center in downtown Providence this past weekend. Here, a company of beautiful and smart Amazons takes a wiry but handsome thief captive (Gleb Lyamenkoff)—only for the Captain (Karla Kovatch) of the troop to fall utterly in love with him. He, however, wards off her affections. In a second plot, a beautiful mistress (Leticia Guerrero) prepares for her husband (Cameron Baldassarra) to leave—none too pleased to entertain three other love interests (Andrew Skeels, Mark Harootian, and Ty Parmenter) after his departure. When her touring husband returns, however, she must answer to his confusion. In a third and final scene, Cupid (Heather O'Halloran) enters and casts love spells among the discordant characters—and offers a little bit of a surprise ending for everyone.

In *Schéhérazade*, love's twisted spell works its magic as well. Here, Sultan Shahryar (Piotr Ostaktsov) and his

brother Zeman (Eivar Martinez) depart the palace for a hunting trip. In their absence, the Sultan's favorite mistress, Zobeida (Jennifer Ricci), falls in love with the Golden Slave (Davide Vittorino). When the brothers unexpectedly return, Shahryar demands to know if Zobeida has been unfaithful, and a dramatic ending ensues.

Con Amore features the music of Gioacchino Rossini and choreography by Christiansen. Choreologist Virginia Johnson offers her expertise in revitalizing these plots for the Providence stage. The corps is clean and clear as it gracefully enters the stage as Amazons in the haunting forest. Their crisp military bodices and flowly white skirts pair well with the crisp choreography.

Karla Kovatch's commanding eye grabs our attention quickly as she plays captain of the fierce Amazons (the fact that her "fierce" character has merely one goal—to woo the unattainable man—is a different concern). This aside, the women are clear and concise, and the choreography delicate and entertaining. Lyamenkoff plays a witty, conniving thief well, and offers some humor to the situation.

Guerrero is amusing as the flirtatious wife in the second plot of *Con Amore*. Her suitors are wild and witty, though a little over the top at times. Baldassarra, another strong character, is a decently jealous and accusing husband (though the streamlined, casual allusion of violence is another plotline concern in this skit).

These two plot lines don't really go together all that well. They are inherently different, and though the spirit of love should unify, their disjointed and discombobulated pairing is an inherent



FESTIVAL BALLET

No, we didn't cut off her head, it's supposed to look like that: Festival Ballet (logo above) put on its latest production last weekend, and danced its way through three love-themed mini-stories.

flaw in the production.

One solid, unifying factor behind the two storylines is O'Halloran's delicate Cupid. Her long, languid lines and graceful movements offer a beautifully perfected closing to what could be considered a hurried and disjointed plotline.

The tone switches considerably after intermission with Gianni Di Marco's *Schéhérazade*—its Festival Ballet's second world premier this season. Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's classically chilling music both charms and haunts the awaiting audience. The shrill main violin immediately offers a foreshadowing of deadly romance. Ricci is cast as the unhappy harem. Her movement is wonderfully drawn out, sensual, seductive, and ultimately saddened by her doomed fate.

Festival goes a little PG-13 on this choreography—Ricci yearns for attention. Pas des deux among the corps

is as sensual as well, mirroring Ricci's own movement. Unfortunately, unlike the corps of Amazons in the first act, male dancers lack their unity and precision in *Schéhérazade*, which is distracting for the viewer. Ostaktsov dances a solid sultan, and Ricci and Vittorino dance beautifully. The wonderful movement paired with haunting musical qualities ends the evening on a bittersweet note.

Once again, Festival Ballet captures the spirit of the season. *Con Amore* and *Schéhérazade* both convey the bliss of Valentine's Day and the bittersweet nature of love. This production and others offer a friendly introduction to the world of dance for all viewers—both the experienced viewer and the amateur who wants a little bit of a different night out on the town. And there are plenty of opportunities left during the rest of the year.

GRADE: B

Hitch: It may be formulaic, but it's still fun

continued from page 11

that has its share of funny moments, but it is very predictable. Sara is exposing Allegra's love life; Hitch is dating Sara; Hitch's client is dating Allegra. I see a love quadrangle here. The first half is full of sharp wit that is notably absent in the formulaic climax. Of course, the formula makes *Hitch* a crowd pleaser, and that is what a Valentine's Day flick should be. I have been wondering what the reaction of the audience would be if a sweet romance turned sour. Let's use our current selection as an example.

Hitch becomes violent and stabs Sara while slicing vegetables for their romantic dinner. An original shocker, yes, but could you imagine the audience's response? At least in *Psycho* the mood was right.

Will Smith and Kevin James create likeable characters, and we can't help but cheer for these amicable chaps in their daring pursuits. On the contrary, I felt the direct opposite about Mendes's Sara. She may be a real looker, but the sugarcoated exterior cannot cover the vindictive gossip queen underneath.

Someone of Sara's nature fits better in a *Mean Girls* setting, where acidic personalities are appreciated.

Hitch uses the growing, negative trend where Hollywood replaces story with flare. There are numerous well-edited interludes where we see New York City skyscrapers, hip parties, and gorgeous girls sipping cocktails. That is cool, and may prompt me to visit my N.Y.U. friend over Spring Break, but it does nothing to develop story and character. When Hitch finally drops a deep monologue towards the end, it

seems ridiculous because Hitch is a flat character. Sure, he is likeable, smooth, and smart talking, but one-dimensional nonetheless.

Despite its flaws, *Hitch* is never boring, and at almost two hours, never does it seem to drag. I do not expect any accolades for this one, but *Hitch* is fine fare for a Valentine's season date. Guys, just make sure you include dinner afterwards, and don't worry if you say something stupid, because 90% of what you say isn't coming out of your mouth.

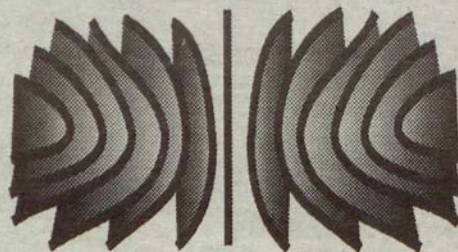
GRADE: C+

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Catwoman
2/01, 2/06, 2/11, 2/16, 2/21, 2/26 @ 10am, 4pm, 10pm
Friday Night Lights
2/01, 2/06, 2/11, 2/16, 2/21, 2/26 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am
Little Black Book
2/02, 2/07, 2/12, 2/17, 2/22, 2/27 @ 10am, 4pm, 10pm
Troy
2/02, 2/07, 2/12, 2/17, 2/22, 2/27 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am
Notting Hill
2/03, 2/08, 2/13, 2/18, 2/23, 2/28 @ 10am, 4pm, 10pm
Amistad
2/03, 2/08, 2/13, 2/18, 2/23, 2/28 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am
Finding Forrester
2/04, 2/09, 2/14, 2/19, 2/24 @ 10am, 4pm, 10pm
Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow
2/04, 2/09, 2/14, 2/19, 2/24 @ 1pm, 7pm, 1am
Scarface
2/05, 2/10, 2/15, 2/20, 2/25 @ 10am, 4pm, 10pm
Ray
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A birthday surprise by the shore

BY JENNIFER SKALA '05
MANAGING EDITOR

"Tell me again why we are here," she said to him with a glare that could freeze a ray of sunshine.

"We're here because I have a surprise for you," he reasoned, ignoring her icy stare. He was quickly sorting through his backpack and setting out various items onto the piled fleece blanket he had spread on the ground, all the while trying to keep the objects out of her sight.

"But I hate surprises!" She rolled her eyes and heaved a sigh. Casey always wanted to know what was going on ahead of time and what to expect. And she couldn't stand being outside in

weather like this—there was no need to be outside in February. She would have much rather spent the day inside with a good book.

"You can grow to love them," replied Willy with a grin that reminded Casey of a cartoon character. Casey again rolled her eyes at Willy for emphasis and started to wander off.

At least she wasn't too upset to enjoy the beach. The sky was a muted gray and looked like Willy's fingers did after he spent all of Sunday morning reading the newspaper. The sea was equally dull, but the rhythmic movement of the waves made the color move and shine, and it reminded Casey of a new quarter. The beach was one of her favorite places in the summer—she loved the hum of the waves against the sand and the cries of the seagulls overhead. She loved the heavy, wet sand of the sandbar under her feet—it reminded her of clay—and most of all, she loved the salty taste the ocean left on her lips after a swim. There was no other place Casey would rather be in the summer, but now, in February, she just didn't see the point...

Willy was quickly working at the blanket, trying to arrange everything just right, but he kept an eye on Casey. He didn't want her walking where he couldn't see and he certainly did not want her to catch a

glimpse of the surprise. He had been planning this for weeks and wasn't going to let the crummy weather ruin it. Casey was someone special, and he hoped the surprise would be up to her high standards.

Casey had walked a little further down by the shore and was throwing rocks into the ocean. She was completely enraptured by the plink, plink, plink of the stones falling into the sea and had practically forgotten about the surprise when she heard Willy calling her. She turned and started back to him quickly before she remembered she was mad at him for dragging her here, and she slowed down again. Casey trudged over to the blanket, attempting to scowl and remain annoyed with Willy, but she could not contain her excitement when she saw what Willy had laid out on the blanket for her.

He had taken her blanket from home and set it out just like he did when they came to the beach in the summer. He even propped up her beach chair in the corner of the blanket and set a new book on top of it with a purple bow. Casey's wide eyes took in all that was before her—her favorite things: Twinkies, red Skittles, a new tube of Lip Smackers lip gloss, Bubblicious bubble gum, and best of all, the latest Lemony Snicket book.

"Daddy!" she exclaimed, "you did this all for me?! How come?"

"Well sweetie, it's not everyday that your only daughter turns nine-and-a-half!" Casey ran up to Willy and jumped into a big bear hug. "Happy half-birthday, Case!" exclaimed Willy with one of his cartoon character grins.



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From behind the front lines

BY STEPHAN DELBOS '05
PORTFOLIO STAFF

"The desert is a lonely place," he said. "If you keep spending all of your time leaned up on that fence, looking out on the horizon, well, you're going to get lonely, too. Do it long enough and you'll probably go plum mad, end up running off naked in the night, thinking them cacti are palm groves or something."

I just nodded and kept staring out across the sand. I was looking at the cacti, but they weren't palm groves, they were beer cans lined up on the back fence of my family's ranch in Crested Butte, Colo.

I could see my father hobbling across the yard, favoring the leg that wasn't full of Vietnamese shrapnel. I could feel his breath on my neck as he wrapped his arms around me from behind, steadying the rifle. I could smell him, all Pomade and Old Spice and "1, 2, 3, squeeze," and the kickback from the rifle as the can disappeared from the fence with a hollow 'ting!'

"Strange," I said, aloud, "I'm in Iraq, and all I can think of is Colorado."

"Well, forget it for a while, it'll do you good. Now listen, that there is the outhouse, leave the girly magazines in there. That big tent is where we sleep. That gray burlap contraption there is the mess hall. Meals at 0600, 1200, and 1800. Show up early 'cause it's busy."

"Used to have a guy, Hajee, we called him. Young Iraqi'd come up to the fence everyday with a basket full of fried chicken. All smiles, you know? We'd give him a few dollars for the whole basket. It wasn't KFC, but it wasn't the mess hall, neither."

"What happened to Hajee?"

"Well, one morning Hajee wasn't around. We all gave up looking for him, and then someone noticed his basket sitting out there in the sand outside the gate. You don't want to get too close to that sort of thing. So someone finally threw a rock at it, just to see if it would go 'boom.' And what comes rollin' out, but bloody old Hajee's head, looking like a coconut with a big ol' smile on it. Guess the insurgents caught wind of what he was doing and put a stop to that. Man, I haven't eaten chicken since."

I could see the chickens scattering to either side as my father cut across the yard towards the barn where we kept the cow. He made that walk every morning, but this time he didn't carry a milk bucket, and his stride was quick and calculated. I was about six-years-old and sat me on top of the cow. I was scared that I might fall off, but he made me hold onto the cow's ears, steadying both her and me. I could feel the big white pulse in my fingertips as I grasped her head. I felt that pulse and knew, really knew for

the first time that the animal was alive, just like I was alive. It suddenly occurred to me that if the pulse were to stop, then everything that made that cow a cow, or made me me, would cease to exist. Everything depended on that pulse; the frantic beating of a small, red muscle was the key to life.

My father pulled out a long silver blade from its sheath, and as he slid his finger gently along the edge of it, I could see my eyes reflected in its silvery gleam, right above the cow's big black eyes, all calm and cool in the early afternoon. Snow had begun to fall gently outside. I could see the storm clouds peeling over the ridge of the mountains as my father slid the blade smoothly along the cow's thick neck. When the blade came out it was dulled with red. I couldn't see my reflection on the blade anymore. The cow slumped slowly to the ground with a long snorting sound and I sat there, perched on a lifeless heap, still clinging to its ears and lifting the whole head off the body as I fell backwards onto the floor.

I stared over the sand dunes, and the silence of the desert enveloped me suddenly, like the silence of life's first non-breath. I turned back and walked slowly towards the mess hall, feeling slow and lazy in that desert heat, like a cow in the noon-day sun of a pasture where all the grass has burnt brown.



TIM PISACICH '07/The Cowl

Welcome to the T-Party

BY KATIE HUGHES '06
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Five friends sit on the T. We are going into Boston for our friend's birthday. Five friends, seven stops, and eight years of friendship. We are on the red line going from Alewife to Park Street. It is funny how the enjoyment lies in the journey rather than in the final destination.

Davis: One man loses his balance and being the horrible people that we are, we burst into laughter. (Not after making sure he was okay of course.) He tries to play it off like he was adjusting his footing, but we know otherwise. We have played that game before as well.

Porter: There is the woman leaving work who sits next to us and has clearly made this trip thousands of times. She looks exhausted. Her motions are so rehearsed and regimented that they are hypnotizing. She sits down, crosses her legs, puts her bag on her lap, takes the head phones out of her bag and puts them onto her head, leans back slightly, takes a deep breath in and out, and presses play. How many times has she performed this pattern? I wonder if she has made specially-timed CD's that measure the exact time it takes to get home.

"We have all known each other for eight years. We have spent over a third of our lives with each other. We have gained the right to be high-pitched and loud."

Harvard: When we get to this stop all I can think about is a T-shirt. The T-shirt was from when I was 11 years old and went through a competitive "I am going to be better than everyone in the entire world" phase. (Thank heaven that is over!) The T-shirt had the Harvard emblem on it along with "Future Freshman" tagged across the chest. Some call it a ballsy dream, others a presumptuous nightmare. Regardless, I wore the T-shirt until it had holes. By that point I figured that someone who went to Harvard would never wear something with holes. So I ceremoniously burned it, along with any dreams with leagues of Ivy.

Central: There is an older gentleman sitting diagonally across from us. He looks intrigued by our conversations. Somehow, the five of us have mastered the art of multiple conversations. Innocent bystanders get sucked up into our rapid exchanges in complete awe of our ability to talk, answer, comment, giggle, and breathe all the while listening to the other friends talk, answer, comment, giggle, and breathe. The man diagonally across from us is one such bystander. His look is a cross between bewilderment in division of large numbers and genuine terror.

Kendall/MIT: A young couple sits across from us, and they are clearly annoyed by the high-pitched chatter and sheer volume that the five of us generate. They have judged us as college girls out for a night on the town. And they are

Poetry Corner

New Patterns

BY ASHLEY LAFERRIERE '06
ASST. PORTFOLIO EDITOR

Yesterday began the rise of a foreign thing.
The green arm moving through soil
And emerging into a butterfly.
Papered, like the delicate words
Now living on the edge of the tongue.

I have cast this down a dozen times.
Remembering the cold ache of disappointment,
Like a hole torn from the sky—
The sun missing.

Yesterday, we sat by the river.
Moving our feet through dark waters.
Your voice matching the rush and tumble,
Our hands invisibly circling the surface,
And inventing new patterns, undiscovered.
Then the sun tickled the water,
And a butterfly
Landed in the palm of my hand.

One Year Later in Madrid

BY KRISTINA REARDON '08
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Yo recuerdo España
I remember how it was
The year the sun forgot to set
and the streets wept
For the lives outside the window
of The Prado
Where La Guernica looked on
and the Station was empty.
The tracks gained soul
As the streets wept
and the tourists bustled on.

Acting in Retrospect

BY CHRIS FAHEY '05
PORTFOLIO STAFF

Burning lights blind you on the set
of fake plastic trees as you sweat dinner time
in a small trailer loaded with women
you wish would love you, but are only
willing to look at you once they repaint your face
and rewrap your body in identical clothing.

You remember you wore different clothing
Before your signature was taken on the set,
and how you have had to assume a new face
each day since then, and must until the end of time.
The director calls for five more minutes only,
and you miss your chance to meet new women.

The new location arrives along with more women
who will get you drinks and iron your clothing
more carefully, but are interested in wages only
since most already have lovers on a nearby set
and are merely adoring you to pass the time
Before they have to disguise another lonely face.

Formulated phrases assign expressions to your face
as shots are edited and discussed by educated women
who think you can do better, but have no time
to explain how, they just offer suggestions on clothing
colors that might contrast better with the green set.
The director brings you to speak with him only

inside his private trailer where naked women only
have perfect breasts and cannot look into your face
when he asks them to give you a massage and to set
aside the wrinkled script that includes no women
either, just some offstage breasts with no clothing
who bounce around complaining how bras waste time.

Simultaneously, you are spoken to and given the time
and you wonder if the years you spent in class were only
meant to flatten your character and round your clothing.
The director dismisses you and his nudes kiss his face
immediately, as though there are other women
with breasts out back that might have a better set.

Action! shouts the director, his glowing face
on the set only reminds you of your first time
seeing women without clothing.

Almost-Love

BY CAITLIN MURPHY '06
PORTFOLIO STAFF

it is an ivory day,
Almost-Love,
where everything is
so delicate and unsteady
that I am surprised you
do not shatter it open,
an oval-stone egg exploding,
shards pressing to the thick air.
we sit on the metal railing,
dropping stones into the dust-canyon
and your presence reminds me
of the mock scrimshaw
we made in third grade
at a little whaling hut
making deep, grating scratches into faux-ivory,
pretending, just like you and me, we understood
the importance of it all,
the mystery of it all.
our stones do not even reach the bottom,
and we dream of the ancient whales passing
through,
making low sounds.
(low like the press of your hand on my back.)
it is a day where
the trees that grow out of the rock almost seem
glad, Almost-Love,
smiling dry, desperate smiles, waiting.
they know that the rock, hot as asphalt in the
day,
is the coolest at night.

it is a night, Almost-Love,
when bushes quake and shake and sweat
in jealousy of such trees.
I want to pry myself from this bed
and fall into the rubber kiddie pool in the
neighbor's backyard.
the plastic palm tree shining in moonlight,
the rubber squeaking under my bare feet.
on this kind of night, Almost-Love,
the shark-prints on the pool grin,
and I wish you made a 3AM call to me,
joining me.
you are the thrill of a late-night swim
in pools made for diaper-ridden babies.
you are the surge of excitement in watching
leaf patterns form Dali-dream pictures
on my body as I float.

you, Almost-Love,
remind me why I stay in bed these nights
instead,
sticking to plastic covers,
knowing you will not join me,
and that before I even reach the kiddie pool,
the police would arrest me for trespassing.
still, it is funny how long I would wait for you,
lying and dreaming of whales these nights,
it is funny how long I would wait,
carving ivory in the most unusual places.
Almost-Love, I would write you a song
on a day leading into a night like this,
but I only know two chords.

Party: All Aboard! Red line for fun with friends

continued from page 15

right. But they do not stop to think about our pasts. We have all known each other for eight years. We have spent over a third of our lives with each other. We have gained the right to be high-pitched and loud. The young couple takes none of this into consideration as they comment to themselves about how juvenile and childish we are behaving.

Charles/MGH: There are a few college-aged kids at the other end. They casually glance in our direction the same way we glance at them. They are sizing us up. Not in a "Did-you-bring-your-switchblade-cause-at-the-next-stop-we-are-going-to-rumble-to-show-tunes" sort of way. Rather they are looking at us trying to decide if we are local students or not. The truth is that we are

half-and-half, which is probably why the kids are confused. Half of us (particularly me) usually do not go into Boston at night, so we were enchanted by the scenic night view by the Charles River stop. The other half is more casual and less "touristy" about the dirty water. What can I say? I have a thing for lights!

Park Street: This is our final stop. The five of us have not seen each other in months. But the amazing thing is, we are the type of friends who pick up where we left off. The timing is seamless. When we are together, the times apart seem to melt away. The months shrink down to minutes. In the amount of time it takes us to get from Alewife to Park Street, five friends are back where they left off, and have already started to add to the memories.

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Returning to the sweet flowers of Peru, to a less than sweet situation

BY CHRISTINE BAGLEY '06
PORTFOLIO EDITOR

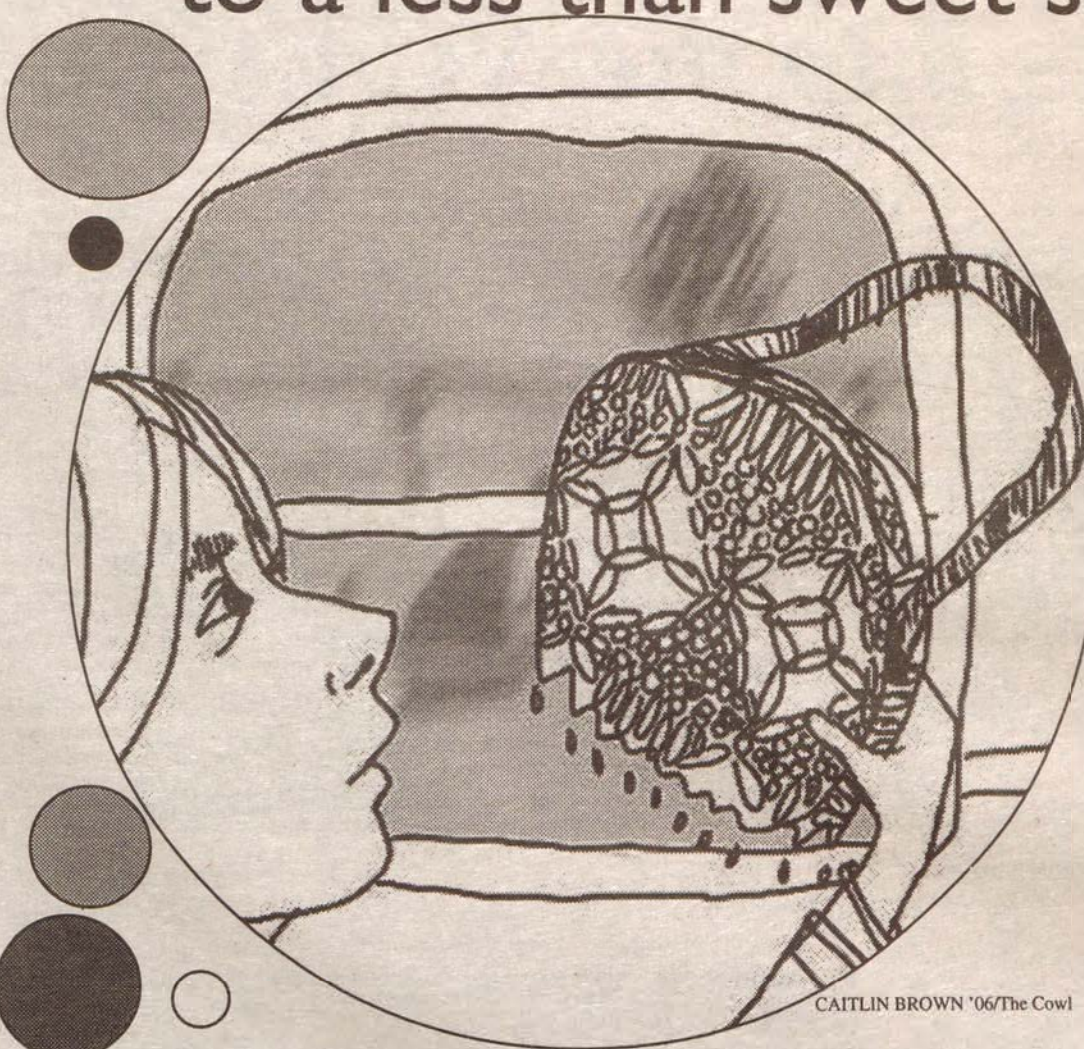
Alejandra hugged her beaded carry-on bag closer to her chest. After many hours hunched over the firelight, Alejandra's great-grandmother Isabel had perfected the bag with exquisite crafts-manship. The beads were brilliant purples and blues and greens. Alejandra never parted with the bag from when her great-grandmother had given it to her as a child. She used to spend hours following a color strand of beads across the flap of the bag and watching the swirls disappear off the edge. Alejandra hugged the bag closer and looked out the window.

As far as Alejandra could see, the land spread out. Using the flat land as a stage, the clouds danced on the horizon. Fields of wildflowers sprinkled the hills, while cattle grazed aimlessly. The scene hadn't changed much since her childhood; the meadow full of long grass and the brook alive with foamed crests still colored the village. Yet, there was something unfamiliar and even unsettling about Alejandra's old village.

She readjusted her position in the seat of the train. The cushions were old and lumpy and the armrests caved in. She crossed her right leg over her left, reconsidered, then crossed her left over the right. The conductor blew the whistle as the train pulled into another station and Alejandra let out a sigh.

She had been traveling for six hours across the countryside in rural Peru to visit her sick great-grandmother after her many hour flight to South America.

Her mother had instructed her to return to her family's village to tend to care for her sick relative. Alejandra's family received word that her great-



CAITLIN BROWN '06/The Cowl

grandmother was on her deathbed and she had asked that Alejandra visit her before the great Lord took her away. Alejandra idolized her great-grandmother as a child, for she told the best stories about life and offered the best advice. Her great-grandmother, Isabel, loved Alejandra the most, out of all her 13 great-grandchildren. Isabel believed Alejandra had a glitter in her eye and a spark in her step.

While she wanted to make the trip to see her sick great-grandmother, Alejandra was uncertain why she was chosen to represent her family. Things had changed when they moved to the States, to the city—away from the sweetness and innocence of her village. Alejandra had not wanted to leave the only home she had ever known to move away from

the late-night fireside stories, and the afternoons spent picking baskets full of wildflowers with exotic petals.

Slowing to a chug, the train pulled into the village's station and let out a screech. The station boasted a tiny wooden hut serving as a place to purchase tickets, a place to buy a piece of fruit, but especially a place to chat with Felipe, who had worked long hours under the shade of the tin roof for as long as Alejandra could remember. Alejandra gathered her belongings and moved to the door of the train. She carefully stepped out of the train and onto the platform, and watched the train vanish, leaving her alone with her beaded bag.

Felipe nodded to her with his familiar greeting, as if she had never left the village. She

forced a smile and waved back.

Alejandra had only returned to the village a few times since she left six years ago, but always under happier terms. She always considered the village her first home, but felt somewhat uneasy and unwelcome this time. As she ventured to the center of the village, the sudden scent of the burning fire and sweet hay tickled Alejandra's nose, overwhelming her. She had always loved to return to her childhood home, picking up where she left off with her cousins, as they spent the days playing games and eating wild berries. However, a twinge in the pit of her stomach told her that this trip wouldn't consist of endless hours of braiding hair, exploring the hillside, or chasing the barnyard animals. Perhaps she had matured from

the innocence of the village. Perhaps the city life in the States had tainted her roots in Peru.

Alejandra kicked up the tawny-colored dust of the dirt road that lead into the village center. She tried to tread silently, but still young children scurried from the shadows of the homes upon hearing her approach. Wide-eyed, the children stared and giggled at the new face.

Alejandra greeted them with the secret village salutation and the children scattered off, disappointed the newcomer wasn't really new at all. Alejandra reached into her beaded bag for the gift she had made for Isabel.

She dug past her cell phone, her car keys, and her wallet full of credit cards. Alejandra finally realized what was different about this visit—she had grown up and been spoiled by the luxuries of modern life. The last time she had returned to the village with her family, she was still young enough to appreciate the simplicity of childhood—and life.

Approaching the center of the village, Alejandra pulled the gift for Isabel out of her sack and made her way towards her great-grandmother's home-stand. She reached the doorstep and took a deep sigh before knocking. Dozens of aunts and female cousins welcomed Alejandra with soft embraces. Slowly, she stepped into the dark, cool hut, still holding to her bag tightly. Many familiar faces greeted her and she felt more at ease than before, and made her way towards her great-grandmother.

Part I of II

Find out how the rustic magic of Alejandra's village soon comforts her, even during her time of sadness in next week's Portfolio edition.

Grime Time Cafe

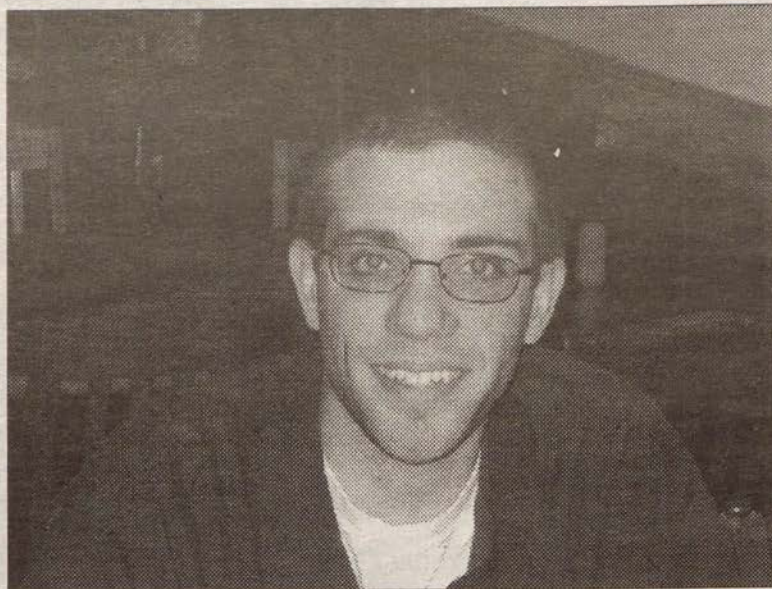
BY JILLIAN RODRIGUEZ '06
PORTFOLIO COMIC ARTIST



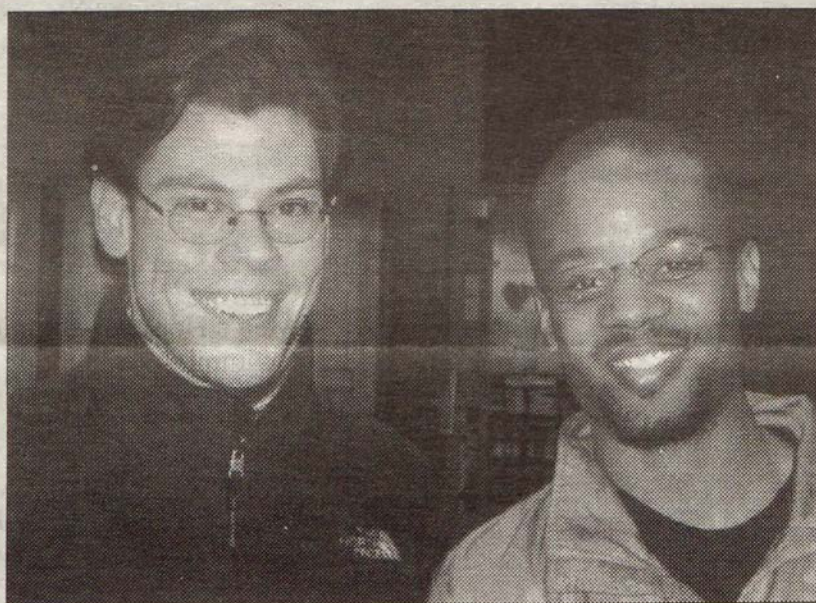
What is it going to take for PC to make it to the NCAA Tourney?



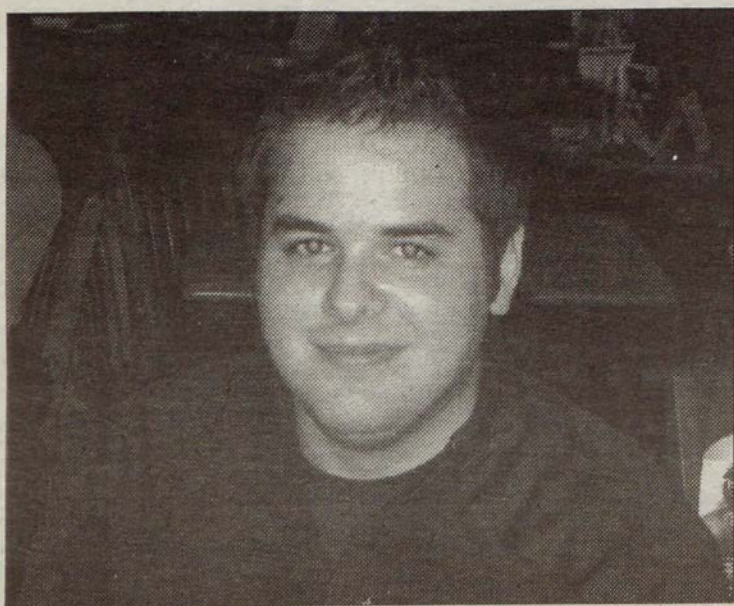
"A lot of support...I'm really tired."
Liz Matarese '06



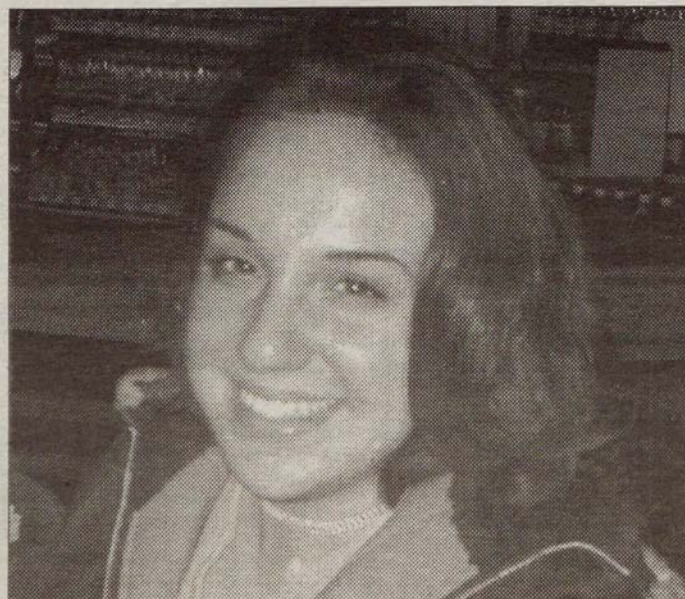
"Poisoning the other team."
Zack Marshall '06



"A nice, clean bathroom in Guzman."
Chris Bogacky '06 and Ericc Powell '06



"Hell to freeze over."
Mike Berluli '07



"A prayer."
Lindsey Pepin '06

Tony Kornheiser and Mike Wilbon



"Prune juice, freshly squeezed
and by the gallon!"



The PC Scoreboard

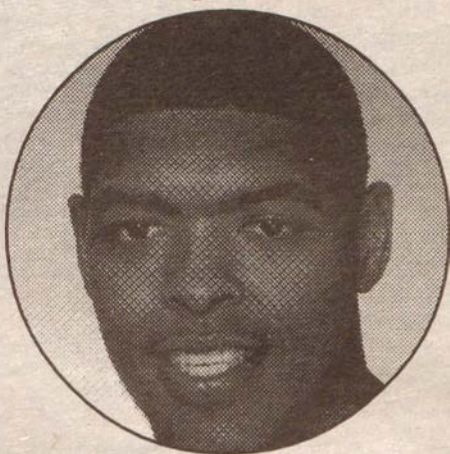
Scores • Standings • Statistics • Schedules • Standouts

Standouts



Nicole Rodgers
Women's Tennis
Senior — Lowell, Mass.

Rodgers reached her 10th win of the season and 30th in her career this past weekend as Providence took on Albany. Rodger's match, which went beyond midnight, also captured the 4-3 victory for the Friars in their first win of the spring season.



Ryan Gomes
Men's Basketball
Senior — Waterbury, Conn.

Gomes received Big East Player of the Week accolades for the week of Feb. 14. He scored his 1,000th point in Big East play against West Virginia and his 2,000 career point against UConn, where he also recorded a career-high 37 points.

Scores

Friday 2/11		
Men's Hockey vs. Boston University	L, 4-2	
Women's Tennis at Albany	W, 4-3	
Indoor Track at Valentine Invitational	Ind. Res.	
Saturday 2/12		
Women's Hockey vs. Connecticut	L, 5-3	
Indoor Track at Valentine Invitational	Ind. Res.	
Women's Tennis vs. St. Bonaventure	W, 6-1	
Sunday 2/13		
Men's Hockey vs. UMass-Lowell	L, 2-0	
Men's Basketball vs. Rutgers	W, 81-64	
Women's Basketball at Seton Hall	L, 51-39	
Women's Hockey at Connecticut	L, 3-2	
Tuesday 2/15		
Men's Basketball vs. Connecticut	L, 94-89 2OT	
Wednesday 2/16		
Women's Basketball vs. Villanova	L, 75-50	

Schedules

Friday 2/18		
Men's Hockey vs. Maine	7:00 p.m.	
Swimming and Diving at Metropolitan Conference Championships	All Day	
Saturday 2/19		
Men's Basketball vs. Notre Dame (COX Sports)	12:00 p.m.	
Women's Hockey vs. Boston College	2:00 p.m.	
Men's Hockey vs. Maine	7:00 p.m.	
Men's Lacrosse vs. Navy (Branford, CT)	12:00 p.m.	
Women's Basketball at Pittsburgh	2:00 p.m.	
Track at Big East Championships (Syracuse, NY)	All Day	
Swimming and Diving at Metropolitan Conference Championships	All Day	
Sunday 2/20		
Women's Hockey vs. Boston College	2:00 p.m.	
Track at Big East Championships (Syracuse, NY)	All Day	
Swimming and Diving at Metropolitan Conference Championships	All Day	
Tuesday 2/22		
Women's Basketball at West Virginia	7:00 p.m.	
Wednesday 2/23		
Men's Lacrosse at Holy Cross	4:00 p.m.	
Men's Basketball at Seton Hall	7:00 p.m.	

Standings

Providence College Men's Basketball All-Time Scoring List (2/17)

Rank	Team	Pts.
1.	Jimmy Walker	2045
2.	Eric Murdock	2021
3.	RYAN GOMES	2013
4.	Jamel Thomas	1971
5.	Marvin Barnes	1839
6.	Joe Hassett	1828
7.	Bruce Campbell	1809
8.	Ernie DiGregorio	1760
9.	Otis Thorpe	1625
10.	Austin Croshere	1523

USCHO.com Women's Hockey East Standings (2/14)

Team	Hockey East				Overall		
	W	L	T	Pts.	W	L	T
New Hampshire	11	1	2	24	19	5	4
PROVIDENCE	10	3	1	21	15	9	4
Connecticut	7	5	2	16	11	11	6
Boston College	3	8	3	9	7	16	4
Maine	3	9	2	8	12	11	3
Northeastern	2	10	2	6	3	20	3

Not so sweet sixteen as Hockey drops pair

BY KEVIN O'BRIEN '07
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

The hockey gods could spare no love for the Providence College Men's Hockey team this Valentine's Day weekend, as the Friars' conference winless streak stretched to 16 games courtesy of 4-2 and 2-0 home defeats to nationally ranked No. 13 Boston University and No. 11 UMass-Lowell, respectively.

MEN'S HOCKEY

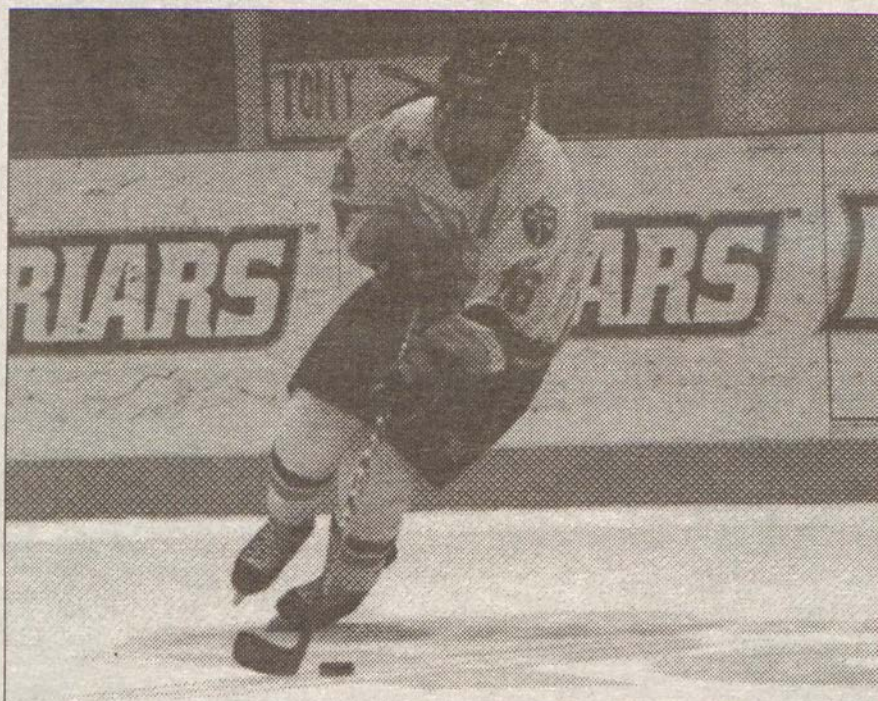
The manner of losing each was different, but the ultimate result was the same. Friday saw PC's frantic comeback against BU fall just a bit short, while Sunday saw a lackluster opening 10 minutes put the Friars in too deep a hole to dig out of. Providence Head Coach Paul Pooley stressed that his team is getting closer to ending its disheartening stretch, but it seems that for every step the Friars have taken forward, the proverbial two steps back has immediately followed.

"We've got to find a way to win a hockey game," Pooley emphasized. "That's the bottom line."

Winning games is something that has proven elusive to the Friars this season, with their last victory having come on Jan. 25 against lowly UConn, and their last conference "W" having been on Oct. 29.

"It's frustrating, it's very frustrating," sophomore left wing Colin McDonald admitted. "You hate to say this, but with our luck this year, it's almost as if you're expecting something not to go right."

While the bounces certainly haven't gone the Friars way this season, Pooley is always quick to point out that a team makes its own luck. An illegal equipment penalty on the Lowell goaltender in the third period on Sunday gave the Friars a gift of a power play, but they



Senior Chris Chaput recorded a goal and an assist in PC's 4-2 loss to nationally ranked No. 13 Boston University. The Terriers finished the sweep with a 2-0 shutout of the Friars.

ultimately came away empty-handed.

"We didn't take advantage of that opportunity," Pooley said. "The key is our specialty teams. We are getting beat game in and game out and it's a problem."

Sunday's game against Lowell was a case in point concerning the Friars' special teams woes. Despite getting a power play just under a minute into the game, Providence was ultimately unable to capitalize on the opportunity, and the power play ended with a shorthanded goal by the River Hawks. A subsequent Providence penalty led to a Lowell power play, and when the River Hawks capitalized to put themselves up 2-0, the Friars could not formulate an answer.

Pooley's response was to yank senior goaltender David Cacciola, and while his replacement, freshman Tyler Sims, acquitted himself well, by then the damage had already been done. The Friars couldn't generate enough offense either at even strength or on the power play to seriously threaten the River Hawks.

While Sunday's game may have been the two steps backward, Friday's loss can be seen as a step in the right direction. Despite a rough stretch early in the second period that saw them fall behind 2-0 and later 3-1, the Friars fought back and were within inches of sending the game into overtime.

Junior right wing Torry Gajda's early third period goal sliced the Terriers' lead

to 3-2 and sparked a Providence resurgence, as it had some great opportunities to tie things up—but when senior center Chris Chaput's breakaway shot was cleared off the goal line with 30 seconds left, the Friars had used the last of their lifelines.

An empty net goal by the Terriers gave the scoreline its final look, and Providence could mark down another difficult loss.

"We're frustrated obviously," Chaput admitted. "We know we're close. Guys have to step up and start making plays, and right now we're not doing it."

The officials certainly weren't making plays either—PC didn't see a power play over the game's last 45 minutes—but Pooley refused to blame the officiating.

"There's no use saying things, because nothing's going to happen," he said. "The refs didn't beat us, BU beat us."

But between questionable calls, bad bounces and mental lapses, it's hard not to think that the Friars just can't catch a break this year. However, Pooley maintains that there's no use dwelling on it, so the only way to set things right is to go back to the drawing board.

"We'll take a day off and be back on Tuesday," he said, "and we'll be ready to go against Maine."

The weekend set against the nationally ranked No. 14 Black Bears—both Friday and Saturday's games will be played at Schneider Arena—marks the beginning of PC's final handful of regular season games. Currently eighth in Hockey East, the Friars will need to play well in their final five games, especially the home-and-home set with bottom feeders Merrimack on Feb. 26 and 27, in order to assure themselves a spot in the conference's postseason tournament.



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Tennis rolls on entering spring break with wins

BY STEVE O'KEEFE '05
SPORTS EDITOR

The Providence College Women's Tennis team has gotten off to quite a hot start this season. After posting a victory over Albany and a convincing win over St. Bonaventure, PC's record stands at an impressive 8-2, including a 2-1 mark in spring competition.

On Feb. 11, Providence pulled out a hard-fought match against Albany by a count of 4-3. The Friars started off on a sour note, however, as they were swept by the Great Danes in doubles play. Providence's top doubles tandem, junior Sara Bitetti and senior Lindsey Christensen dropped their match 1-8. While seniors Molly Gilbride and Nicole Rodger lost 5-8 at the number two spot. Rounding out the defeats were freshman Carly Hoffend and junior Andrea Lee, who lost 2-8.

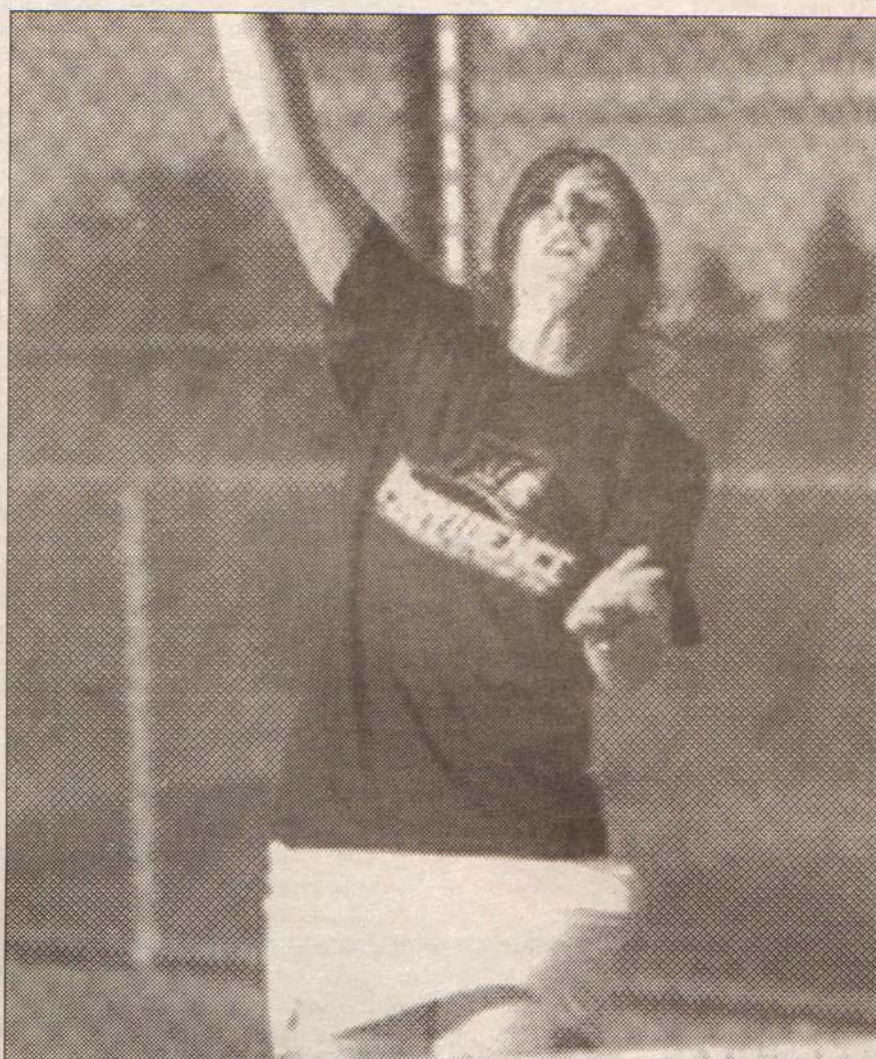
Despite the inauspicious start, Providence rebounded in singles competition where it racked up all four points. Playing at the No. 1 spot, Bitetti earned her first victory at that position all year, rolling to 6-2, 6-0 in straight sets.

"Sara Bitetti played outstanding tennis from the first point to the last," said Head Coach Wayne Turner. "Her aggressiveness at the baseline gave her the opportunity to take weak returns and get some good work at the net. She has made great strides with that part of her game."

Freshman Katherine Lyons continued the surge, netting 6-3, 6-3 wins at the No. 6 position to garner PC's second point.

Gilbride added her team-leading 14th singles win in a four and a half hour, three set marathon by a score of 7-6, 1-6, 7-5.

"Molly Gilbride played 'another' match of her life," remarked Turner.



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO
Junior Sara Bitetti registered two wins this weekend, both coming in the No. 1 position. Bitetti defeated her Albany opponent in straight sets, 6-2, 6-0.

The next day, she defeated a St. Bonaventure opponent 4-6, 6-0, 10-2.

"She is a remarkable athlete and probably one of our best ever to represent the school. Her focus and intensity are incredible."

The comeback was completed by Rodger, who battled well into the night to win 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 in a match that did not wrap up until after midnight.

Building off the grueling victory over Albany, the Friars wasted no time ending the suspense against St. Bonaventure in a 6-1 romp on Feb. 12. Gilbride extended her individual win mark with a 6-4, 6-0 straight set defeat of her competitor. Bitetti tallied her second win at the No. 1 position with a 4-6, 6-0, 10-2

conquest, while Christensen posted a straight set shutout, 6-0, 6-0. Lee and Lyons gained default wins to finish the singles wins for PC.

"St Bonaventure was a very good team," said Turner. "Even though we had a couple of singles forfeits and one in doubles we still had to go out and win. They could have beaten us. We were coming off an emotional win and hardly got any sleep before we had to get back on the courts."

In doubles competition, PC was just as valiant, sweeping the Bonnies to seal the victory. Bitetti and Christensen paired together at the No. 1 spot to win by a count of 8-4. Gilbride and Rodger emerged from the No. 2 position with a victory, 8-1. Finally, Hoffend and Lee teamed up to round out the scoring with a default victory at No. 3.

The loss dropped St. Bonaventure to 0-6 on the season.

PC has a month-long hiatus before returning to action against Connecticut on March 16, but will play a few matches on the side to keep the rust off.

"The team will travel to Florida for matches against Broward Community College (junior college champ two of the last three years) and versus Nova Southeastern," noted Turner. "They will train and play matches there and possible do some ladder matches for the spring. When we return we will get back on the courts and start to have some hard practices."

Until competition resumes, the Friars can look to their impressive record and feel confident, but certainly will not rest on their laurels according to Turner.

"I am very proud of our team and our record reflects their approach to practice and competition," he said. "We know that we have done well to date but what is more important is to be ready for what's ahead. We won't become complacent. I guarantee that."

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Friars: Losing streak over

continued from back page

good look but it didn't fall and the Friars were looking at overtime.

The Friars had the lead in the first overtime after junior Donnie McGrath hit two free throws to make it 77-73. However, Marcus Williams came down and hit a runner in the lane and was fouled. He hit the foul shot and pulled UConn to within one. Freshman DeSean White was then fouled on a rebound and went to the foul line, but he made only one of two. Brown hit a shot to tie the score with 23 seconds left. The Friars opted not to use a time-out, but couldn't run the play they wanted, settled for a desperation attempt at the three by McGrath that just missed. The game went into the second overtime but PC ran out of gas and couldn't overtake the Huskies.

"The games come so fast that you can't keep them with you for a long time," said Gomes. "We just try to go into practice the next day and keep working hard. There are a lot of young guys on this team and they are gaining a lot of experience and this is making them better."

Despite the heartbreaking loss to UConn, the Friars did pick up their first Big East win of the season on Sunday defeating Rutgers. The Friars used a

balance attack on offense, getting four players to score in double figures—Gomes with 22, McGrath and senior Tuukka Kotti with 17 apiece, and White with 12.

The Friars played tight defense throughout the first half jumping on the Scarlet Knights early and leading 37-22 at halftime. The defense, which had been absent for much of the Big East season, was key. The Friars used the press to perfection and it resulted in easy baskets for PC, as it shot 57 percent in the first half.

"That was the thing that we focused on tonight was defense," said McGrath. "We have been scoring points but tonight we played D. If we would have been playing defense [all year] we would probably be in the upper half of this league."

The Friars have proven all year that they can play with the best teams not only in this league but in the entire country. With five games remaining it is evident that there is no shot at the NCAA tournament barring a furious run in the Big East Tournament. However, everyone is aware of the heart Providence plays with and that is what makes it a dangerous team. You can't measure heart and that's why, come Big East Tournament time, no one wants to play the Friars.

PC: In second

continued from back page

"It's a great wake-up call for us," added Deraney. "We can turn this into a real positive if we want to. I think we've taken it for granted that we always find a way to win, and this weekend we didn't. It's a realization that we have to bring our best game every night, no matter who we're playing. It's executing at the moment of truth when the big play needs to be made. This weekend we didn't make it. We've got to get back to a commitment to excellence and execution and paying attention to detail. We're not looking for the easy way out, but to play a good, solid, honest hockey game for 60 minutes. I hope we learn that lesson."

PC's next opportunity to implement that lesson will be this weekend, as it challenges Boston College in a home-and-home series. Providence will host the Eagles on Saturday, February 19 at 2:00 p.m. at Schneider Arena.

With a field of contenders vying for the top spot in Hockey East, Deraney is mindful and accepting of what the team is up against.

"The competition's getting better," he said. "I love competition because it makes you look at yourself and it weeds out the people who don't want to do it and it elevates the people who do."

Dear Coach

BY STEPHANIE LACHARITE '06
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

After coming off a high from the third place finish in the Big East Conference, an appearance in the NCAA tournament as a No. 5 seed, a national ranking reaching No. 12, and a record of 20-9 the athletic department re-signed Head Coach Tim Welsh with enthusiasm. The athletic department thought there would be a new era with Welsh in the Big East — apparently not.

With the season coming to a close, the Friars (and Tim Welsh) have bid farewell to dreams of a repeat performance of last year's success, as Providence is at the bottom of the barrel in the Big East Conference.

True, they may be a leader when it comes to the offensive side of the game in the Big East, but PC has forgotten one minor detail this season and it's called defense. PC is ranked dead last in defensive scoring and finish second to last in defensive field goal percentage allowing opposing team's approximately 78 points per game with a field goal percent average of 47.

But, for a team boasting senior Ryan Gomes, an All-American and Player of the Year candidate who leads the conference in scoring, how has Providence plummeted so quickly?

Well, it obviously is not the players, as Gomes is a nationally acclaimed player who returned to Providence for his senior year despite the lure of NBA dreams and dollars. In addition to Gomes, Providence also returned two year starting point-guard, junior Donnie McGrath, and senior forward Tuukka Kotti who has seen significant playing time in his career at PC. McGrath ranks 10th in the Big East for assists, second in three-point field goal percentage averaging 47 percent, and third in three-point field goals made with 28. Kotti is also a leader for rebounding and defensive rebounding in the Big East.

Furthermore, PC has depth with a strong freshman class and upper-classmen, such as redshirt sophomore Herbert Hill, who has stepped up to fill the spaces of Rob Sanders, Marcus Douthit, and Sheiku Kabba from last year's outgoing class.

So maybe Tim Welsh's time in Friartown is up, despite what his contract may say. What Providence athletics thought to be an era in basketball, might be over before it has begun. He was signed after a few mediocre seasons at Iona College and has an average performance overall, with 171 wins and 104 losses in nine seasons as a head coach. At Providence, Welsh produced a 101-82 record in his six seasons here, but cannot reach the .500 mark this season, as he has barely squeaked out his first conference win last week.

Other teams flaunting returning All-Americans, besides Providence, have managed to stay afloat this season. Among these include nationally ranked No. 3 Kansas, which flaunts Wayne Simien and nationally ranked No. 7/8 (USA Today Poll/AP Poll) Oklahoma State with John Lucas. Also, one must consider Lawrence Roberts of Mississippi State, which is on the bubble of being a nationally ranked team and Julius Hodge of NC State who also plays for a struggling team, but nonetheless not ranked last in its conference like PC.

So Coach, may I suggest you get your act together, since your players have done their fair share, and start coaching the nationally ranked team you once had. If you need to see the light at the end of the tunnel look toward the NIT, which you still could make provided you finish out the season 5-2 including your Big East tournament games. To be really optimistic, if the Friars win the Big East tournament in a surprise come-from-behind rally, you've got your ticket back to the NCAA Tournament. But there's always next season...

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Tune-up and rest-ups mark weekend for Friars

BY DREW GOUCHER '08
SPORTS STAFF

With the March Big East Indoor Track Championships approaching this weekend, the Providence College Indoor Track team used this past weekend's St.

INDOOR TRACK

Valentine Invitational to tune up for the big meet. The two-day Invitational, held at Boston University, saw the Friars qualify several of their top runners, male and female, for this weekend's Championships.

The men's team continued its string of strong performances this past weekend. Senior Pat Moulton raced to a seventh place finish in the 3000-meter with a time of 8:16.02, and sophomore Nick Weidman finished 26th in the same event with a time of 3:35.71. Junior Richard Jones turned in an outstanding third place finish in the 1000-meter, at 2:22.66, and freshman Mike Blanchard was not far behind at 21st with a 2:30.63. In the mile, freshman Max Smith finished sixth at 4:07.11, and classmate Ahmed Haji finished 32nd with a time of 4:16.32. All qualified for next weekend's Big East Championships.

They will join several other runners already qualified for the meet, including senior Liam Reale, junior Joe Dionne, and sophomore Darren Brown. All three took the weekend off, as Head Coach Ray Treacy said this weekend was meant to qualify as many of Providence's runners as possible for the Big East meet.

"It was our last chance to qualify a bunch of guys for the Big East," he explained. "The guys that did run ran well. Overall it was a good weekend, with Pat [Moulton] running well, and Max [Smith] had a very good run in the mile as well. Richard Jones ran one of the fastest times in the conference in the 1000



COURTESY OF SPORTS INFO

Junior Fiona Crombie qualified for the Big East Championships in the mile this weekend, as she finished the race fifth with a time of 4:51.92. Crombie has also qualified for the Big East meet in the 3,000-meter event.

meters."

The women's team, despite battling injuries all season, also qualified several runners for the Big East meet.

Senior Roisin Quinn turned in a time of 2:12.28 in the 800-meter, finishing fifth and qualifying for the Big East Championships. Junior Fiona Crombie, who had already qualified in the 3000-meter, also qualified in the mile with a time of 4:51.92. Freshman Michelle Childs also qualified as she placed ninth in the 3000-meter in 10:02.82.

"Fiona came out on the women's side and ran a good mile, and is qualified for two events for the Big East meet, which is what we were hoping for," said Treacy on the women's performances. "Michelle got qualified in the 3,000, and Roisin got qualified in the 800. And so, overall it was a very positive weekend for us."

Treacy also was quick to praise the efforts of Providence senior Kim Smith, who no longer competes for Providence, running instead for Reebok.

At the St. Valentine Invitational, she turned in an incredible 14:50.46 performance in the 5,000 meters. It was the second fastest time this year and the sixth fastest time ever.

"Even though she's not competing for the team, she ran the second fastest time in the world in 5,000 meters in winning at BU, and she also ran the sixth fastest time ever in 5,000 indoors," said Treacy. "There were three Ethiopians and the Olympic Champion from 2000 ahead of her all-time, so it was a fantastic performance for her."

While Smith's performance was fantastic, Treacy was more concerned with the team's upcoming performance.

"I expect the guys to do really well," said Treacy optimistically about the men's team. "We have a lot of qualifiers, and we'll have people who will be very competitive in the 800, 1000, mile, 3000, 5000, and both relays. It's certainly good to have competitive people in all those events."

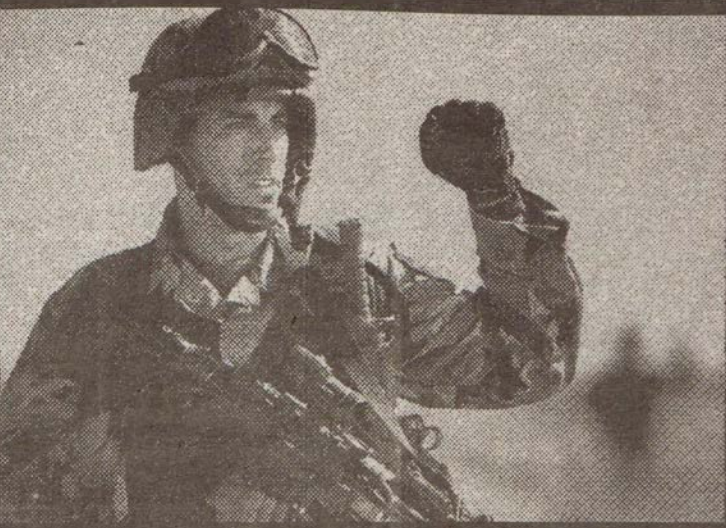
For the women's team, Coach Treacy understands the difficulties that injuries have inflicted on the team's hopes—allowing only a few runners to qualify—but understands the potential for strong individual performances at the Big East Meet.

"We've got three qualifiers on the women's side in Fiona [Crombie], Michelle [Childs], and Roisin [Quinn], so whatever we get out of them we'll take," said Treacy. "We're hoping Fiona will do well in the mile, and Roisin do well in her event, and Michelle in hers as well."

Still, all eyes will be on the men this weekend. Big things are expected.

"We'll be shooting to have our highest finish ever in the Big East," Treacy said. "I think we were seventh last year, and we're looking to be higher than that this year."

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SPORTS

FEBRUARY 17, 2005

Frustration and improvement form interesting mix

BY RYAN DURKAY '05
SPORTS STAFF

It has been a season of frustration for the Providence College Men's Basketball team, a theme that continued this week. After earning a hard-fought 81-64 win against Rutgers, the Friars battled against the defending National Champions, the University of Connecticut, to the end, but lost in double overtime 94-89.

On Tuesday night, the sell-out crowd that was on hand was treated to a passion-filled, hard fought contest. The Friars came out with a blue-collar work ethic and battled the huge front line of the Huskies on every play. The Friars were tough inside in their zone defense and held the Huskies to only a slight rebounding edge for the game at 46-44. But as it has been for the majority of the year, the Friars couldn't find a way in the end, and saw the Huskies put up the first seven points in the second overtime and then hit 9-10 from the free throw line down the stretch, putting the game out of reach.

"We've already proven we can play with these people but now we've got to win," said PC Head Coach Tim Welsh. "I've never been through anything like this, ever, as a player,



PETE TAVIS '05/The Cowl

Senior Ryan Gomes entered elite company this week, joining Jimmy Walker and Eric Murdock as the only Friars to record 2,000 points. He is only 33 points shy of overtaking Walker at the summit of PC's all-time scoring list. Gomes also is only the eighth player in Big East history to surpass both the 1,000 point and 500 rebound plateaus.

assistant coach, head coach. You come so close every night and show you can play and at the end you're a nickel short. It's frustrating."

Frustrating is right, and

senior Ryan Gomes is feeling that more than ever. The senior All-American scored a career high 37 points in the loss, surpassing the 2,000 point mark for his career. Gomes scored all

of Providence's 11 points in the second overtime. His performance before the 15 NBA scouts and his home states' school was certainly an impressive one. UConn Head Coach Jim Calhoun took notice of it. However unlike last year's profanity laced tirade, he kept it more personal between himself and Gomes.

"He just came up to me after the game, gave me a hug and told me that I was a hell of a player," said Gomes.

The compliments didn't stop there. Every player on the court in UConn blue came up to Gomes after as if they were hoping some of his greatness could rub off on them. Even Gomes' own coach had an incredible compliment for his star player, saying that he was not only one of the best college players this year but one of the best ever to play the game.

Despite all that was said though, the Friars still lost a heartbreaker. They now sit 1-10 in conference play and 11-14 overall, and are in danger of not making a postseason tournament for the first time since Gomes' freshman year when the Friars went 15-16.

Despite the quick start by the Friars in the first half, going up 12-5, UConn led at half time 35-31. PC, which started off the game hot from the field, ended the half shooting only 32 percent while their counterparts

shot at a 52 percent clip, including 6-8 behind the arch. The Friars hung tough in the rebounding battle in the first frame, holding UConn to only one offensive rebound.

The second half started quick with Gomes scoring six of the Friars first eight points, giving Providence a 39-37 lead. For the rest of the half it was back and forth action as both teams refused to back down. After two baskets by UConn sophomore Josh Boone, the Huskies took a 66-60 lead with 2:40 left in the game. The Friars then rattled off a 7-0 run in the span of one minute, capped by freshman Jeff Parmer's three-pointer, his first of the game. UConn would eventually tie the game after a foul shot by Denham Brown and then take the lead after a dunk to put the Friars up 69-67 with 11.7 seconds left.

"We ran the play for Ryan and we knew what was going to happen, but I want Ryan to have the ball. We knew they were going to send the big guys after him (Boone and Villanueva) and Ryan just made a super pass."

Gomes got the ball just outside the lane and made a pass to the cutting sophomore Herbert Hill who scored on a jump hook with 4.9 second left. UConn came down and had a

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Friars drop two and return to second in conference

PC loses 5-3 and 3-2 to UConn; now trails front running UNH by three points in Hockey East standings with six to play

BY PAT BROWN '05
SPORTS STAFF

This weekend showed the nationally ranked No. 10 Providence College Women's Hockey team a new meaning of the old saying that everyone is looking to bring you down when you are on top.

No sooner had they leapfrogged over New Hampshire to the top of the Hockey East table before they took a tumble downwards courtesy of an up-and-coming Connecticut squad.

The 5-3 and 3-2 losses against the Huskies dropped the Friars' record to 15-9-4 overall and 10-3-1 in Hockey East.

With UNH sweeping Maine, the two wins over the weekend placed a three point buffer between the Wildcats and Providence, with six games remaining in the season. In all likelihood then, the Feb. 26 and 27 UNH-PC fixtures will decide the outcome of the regular

season.

With UConn having already earned a draw against the Friars in January, Providence knew that a home victory on Saturday was by no means a foregone conclusion. The hosts jumped out to an early lead when junior Karen Thatcher spotted sophomore Sonny Watrous lurking at the right hand doorstep of the net. Thatcher's pass squirted over to Watrous, who made no mistake in burying it past the keeper.

The Friars soon faced a two goal deficit, however, as a deflected screen shot from the point and a powerplay goal gave UConn a 2-1 lead.

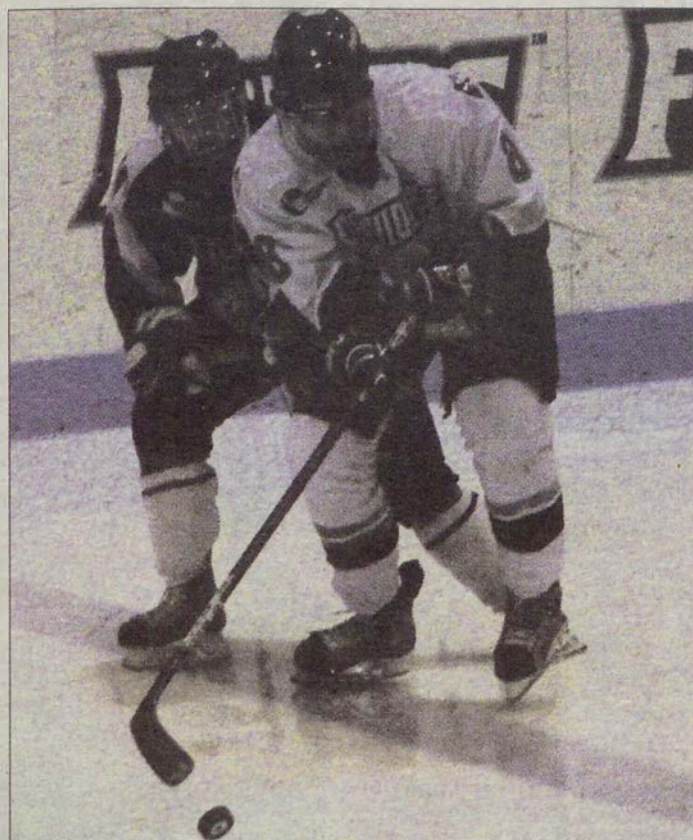
PC leveled the score before the period's end, when Watrous successfully set up senior Rush Zimmerman, who deftly one-timed the assist on a 2-on-1 break.

Despite peppering the Huskies' goal with shot after shot, Providence was forced to play catch up yet again, as the visitors capitalized on yet another man-advantage.

Early in the third period, Watrous collected her second tally of the game when freshman defender Kathleen Smith's point pass on the powerplay put her in perfect position to score.

However, the 3-3 deadlock was broken five minutes later, as the pack of hungry Huskies took the lead for good.

Successfully converting its third powerplay of the game,



TRACY DONADIO '06/The Cowl

Sophomore Sonny Watrous tallied two goals to complement her assist in PC's 5-3 loss to UConn. UConn swept the weekend series, winning the first contest 3-2. The losses, combined with two UNH victories, dropped PC to second place in Hockey East competition.

Connecticut entered the dying minutes of regulation with great momentum and registered an empty-net goal at 19:43 to round out the scoring at 5-3.

The battle to out-execute and out-hustle spilled over the next day into the Constitution State, as Providence looked to regain its footing on the road. The

grudge match started out like the first game, with Zimmerman getting the Friars on the board early on, only for them to go down 2-1 in the next six minutes. Thatcher's 19th goal of the season 41 seconds into the third evened out the score, but a Connecticut powerplay midway through the period

sealed the result at 3-2.

The Huskies' performance with the man-advantage (5-for-9 over two games) was instrumental to earning them their first victories ever against Providence in the teams' 21 game history of competition. "They capitalized on a lot of their power-plays and that was really the deciding factor for the weekend," said Watrous. "They really wanted it. We were first in Hockey East and that was their game of the season."

At the same time, the Friars regard the series as a valuable reminder for what they must achieve throughout the remainder of the season.

"We realized that we have to do all the little things," Watrous said. "People are going to really capitalize on the things we do wrong, so if we make even the slightest mistake, they're going to take advantage of that."

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